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FRIDAY OCTOBER 25, 2013

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 213

GOT A NEWS TIP?

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the lowest and 5 the highest, how would you rate CUC's response time to power outages during last week's bad weather?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION

A teacher is found slain and a 14-year-old boy is charged with killing her. ➤ PAGE 20

ASIA

Filipino and Chinese oil firms eye an exploration deal in the South China Sea. ➤ PAGE 21

LIFE & STYLE

Three-month-old Prince George is christened in London. ➤ PAGE 24

'BIBA SUSU'

Volunteers of the Commonwealth Cancer Association wear pink "Biba Susu" shirts and urge motorists to honk their horns in support of the group's campaign to promote October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month yesterday in Garapan.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Solar contract to be awarded

By Haidee V. Eugenio
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

» CUC says study findings 'very favorable' for integrating renewable energy

With a long-awaited renewable energy integration study "near complete," Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the government is close to awarding a 10-megawatt solar photovoltaic power plant contract with California-based American Capital Energy Co. The study paves the way for investors to work on multimillion renewable energy productions in the CNMI to help lower power costs.

See SOLAR on Page 4

September visitor arrivals jump 9 pct.

» FY 2013 visitor arrivals up 11 percent for the entire year

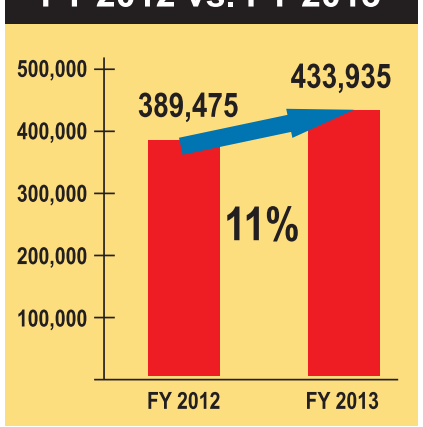
September 2013 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands jumped 9 percent compared to September 2012. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Rota registered 33,329 visitors in September compared to 30,472 in September 2012.

Fiscal year 2013 visitor arrivals totaled 433,735, an 11-percent increase compared to fiscal year 2012 and returning the CNMI to visitor arrival levels last seen a decade ago.

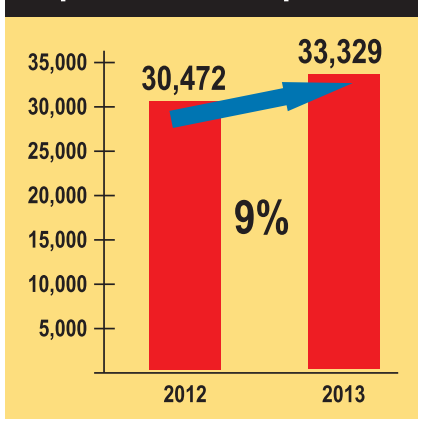
Arrivals from Japan in July dropped 18 percent in September to 10,083 visitors.

See VISITOR on Page 4

VISITOR ARRIVALS
FY 2012 vs. FY 2013



Sept. 2012 vs. Sept. 2013



Source: Marianas Visitors Authority

MHS, ESFDB top 10th Sengebau Poetry Contest

» Rota schools dominate junior-division

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
CORRESPONDENT

Marianas High School freshmen Olivia Hirsh and Liza Atalig and Rota's Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja's Tyra Reese A. Calvo garnered first place in their respective categories in the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's 10th Annual Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition at the American Memorial Park Wednesday night.

Hirsh and Atalig bested 12 other duos and individual recitals from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota in the senior-division with their original poem, *Our Culture: Me, You, Us, Family, Strong*.

Both said their poem's message is

See MHS on Page 4

From left, Marianas High School freshmen Olivia Hirsh and Liza Atalig and Rota's Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja's Tyra Reese A. Calvo pose with their trophies as winners of the 10th annual Valentine N. Sengebau poetry competition. Behind them is MHS coach Bobby Cruz.

THOMAS A. MANGLONA

Neal wants probe into tampering of evidence. PAGE 2
Fund completes deposits, hands out all except 69 checks. PAGE 3

Local

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Neal wants thorough probe into tampering of evidence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Chief prosecutor Shelli Neal wants a thorough investigation into how evidence in a drug trafficking case—a bag that contained crystal methamphetamine or "ice"—was substituted with a fake substance, leading to the dismissal of the case against two suspects.

"We will definitely get to the bottom of this," Neal told reporters Wednesday afternoon, shortly after Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho dismissed the charges against Le Xiang Chen and Yuhua Wang.

Neal said their investigators are now looking into it and will be interviewing people involved.

She said it is not the Office of the Attorney General's goal to go to trial where the integrity of evidence has not been preserved.

"We seek justice, we're not just out to try to win. We don't want to convict people where there is no evidence. We don't want to convict people with evidence that has been tampered with," she said.

In this kind of judicial system, Neal said, such a thing is rarely seen.

"I've been a lawyer for almost 20 years now, I've never actually seen evidence tampered with. I've seen evidence get lost, stepped on…" she said.

Neal said she does not know what happened. What she knows is that the evidence in the bag that was brought to them was not the evidence for this case.

Given the circumstances, when they found out that there was a problem, she said they immediately notified Camacho. Neal and prosecutors Barbara Cepeda and Chemere McField spoke with Camacho on Wednesday.

She said a Guam chemist who was supposed to testify in the trial helped them figure out how to identify the problem.

"But how it happened, we still don't know," Neal said.

Chen's lawyer, Bruce Berline, said the judge did the right thing to dismiss the charges.

"He has no other choice. No reasonable juror could have found beyond a reasonable doubt guilt based on the evidence that the government had produced, even in the best light possible," Berline said.

"The judge did what he had to do. Unfortunately, the jury didn't get to deliberate," he added.

Camacho granted Berline's and assistant public defender Matthew Meyer's motion to acquit their clients, Chen and Wang.

Camacho dismissed the charges of trafficking of a controlled substance and conspiracy to commit trafficking of controlled substance.

The judge urged Attorney General Joey P. San Nicolas and Department of Public Safety Commissioner James C. Deleon Guerrero to look into this matter.

Camacho said that after three days of trial, it has been discovered that no one knows what happened to the "ice" that was seized in 2010.

Camacho said it appears that the package in which the "ice" was kept in a locked safe at DPS was tampered with and that the original package may have been substituted with fake evidence.

The prosecutors informed the court about the error after the government rested its case. Defense counsels then moved for acquittal. The prosecutors did not oppose the motion.

A sting operation conducted by Drug Enforcement Task Force using a confidential informant who purchased $200 worth of "ice" on Feb. 27, 2010, led to the arrest and filing of charges against Chen and Wang.

Fund completes deposits and hands out all except 69 checks

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has completed all direct deposit payments on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, and distributed all except for 69 checks, as part of the disbursements of over $40 million in defined benefit plan employee contributions refunded to over 1,700 recipients.

Fund in-house legal counsel Viola Alepuyo said yesterday that all the direct deposit payments have been made for all three islands and all of the checks on Tinian have been handed out.

Alepuyo said all but 62 checks on Saipan have been distributed.

"We don't have updated numbers for Rota; however, as of the end of business yesterday [Wednesday], all but seven checks were distributed," she said.

Alepuyo said she could not give a specific amount on the disbursements yet since there are changes every hour as waivers continue to come in.

Alepuyo said there are a total of 1,710 recipients: 1,372 on Saipan, 141 on Tinian, and 197 on Rota. She said 708 are checks and the rests are ACH (automated clearing house).

The lawyer said that many people appreciate the hard work of the Fund staff. One recipient was thankful "for all the hard-working Fund staff," bought pizza, and had it delivered to the Fund yesterday.

"The Fund staff were very appreciative of the generous gesture of the donor. And in turn the Fund's staff's spirits were high and were very thankful for the recipient's generosity," she said.

Some $10 million were earlier disbursed following U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood's preliminary approval of the Johnson settlement agreement on Aug. 6.

The remaining $42 million was released after Tydingco-Gatewood's final approval of the settlement agreement and then after legislative approval. The judge gave the final approval last Sept. 30.

'2 more issues pending in Friends of Marpi lawsuit'

With the controversial installation of power poles in Marpi now rendered moot by a partial settlement agreement, only two issues remain in the lawsuit filed by the group Friends of Marpi against the CNMI government.

Friends of Marpi counsel David G. Banes told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that their lawsuit alleged that the CNMI government breached its legal duty in three ways: failing to legally install the power poles, failing to properly fund and staff the Historical Preservation Office, and failing to have a legally required land use plan.

"Removing the poles solves the first issue but not the other two. So those two other issues will remain," said Banes in an email.

In a joint statement on Monday, Banes and government lawyer Charles Brasington disclosed that the government and Friends of Marpi have reached a partial settlement agreement.

The lawyers said under the settlement deal, the government will take down the power poles in the Marpi area from the Buddhist temple to the Veterans Cemetery along Chalan Pale Arnold Road.

Once completed, the lawyers said, Friends of Marpi will drop its lawsuit related to the disputed power poles.

The 43 power poles are part of a $2.9-million project to supply power to the Marpi public cemetery and the CNMI Veterans Cemetery.

With only two more power poles reportedly needed to be installed to complete the project, Friends of Marpi led by Tina Sablan filed the lawsuit in early 2011.

In May 2011, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo issued orders that granted Friends of Marpi's preliminary injunction that suspended the power poles project for 90 days. The government then appealed. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Governor: Spend $40M wisely

Gov. Eloy S. Inos has a piece of advice for the over 1,700 individuals that have withdrawn over $40 million in their defined benefit plan employee contributions from the NMI Retirement Fund: Spend it wisely and invest it on your retirement.

He hopes that those who have withdrawn their retirement money would put them in a 401(k) or any individual retirement account or IRA.

This is the same advice that other government officials, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and even members who have withdrawn their DB employer contributions have given. They hope that members would not use all the money for purchases such as new cars, new houses, or off-island trips.

Yesterday marked the second day for members to pick up their checks or receive direct deposits from the Fund.

"My advice is not to plan on spending all that money one time, that they save for the rainy days, [or when] they're old. I suggest that they receive that money but maybe start getting into other types of investment. Don't spend it all because the time will come when they cannot be employed anymore because of natural process of aging and stuff like that I recommend that they exercise care in the use of the funds and put some for the future," Inos said in a news briefing.

He added that the process for allowing eligible defined contribution plan members to withdraw their DC contributions has also started.

Inos said there's about 400 DC plan members who have so far applied to withdraw their contributions.

Just the same, he hopes that these DC plan members—just like the DB plan members—will set aside the money for their retirement years. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

2013 Pinktober set tonight

The Commonwealth Cancer Association will hold its Pinktober event tonight, Oct. 25, from 6pm to 10pm at Hard Rock Café Saipan There is a $15 entrance fee, which includes a free drink and a raffle ticket.

The 2013 signature event for breast cancer awareness features performances by Parker Yobei, Alfred Saures and The Gang, Jerry, Jan and The Flow Band, Marvin, Patz Badjhoe and Sugar Rush, Walden, and Violy and Josh "Zeng Zung" Castro.

Sponsors for the 2013 Pinktober event are Hard Rock Café Saipan and FHP/TakeCare.

Last year, over 300 attended the 2013 Pinktober Concert at the same venue.

For more information, visit CCA at Gualo Rai Plaza along Middle Road, log on to www.ccamarianas.org, call 682-0050 or email ccamarianas@gmail.com. ***(Mark Rabago)***

MHS

From Page 1

very close to their hearts.

"I have so many different types of blood running through me and, to know that so many [cultures] make up this island, I feel that I am part of something so different but connected," Hirsh said. "The Marianas islands is made up of so many different cultures and many of those cultures run in our blood.

Atalig expressed the same sentiments. "We really wanted to express our voice. Most of my family members and friends are different ethnicities and we're all bonded to each other and we got to use each culture. We can't actually call ourselves one culture because we are actually many different cultures all combined into one."

Their coach, Bobby Cruz, shared that the students wrote the poem in just one day but practiced for weeks to know it by heart.

"They put this piece together and it is amazing. I am really excited." Cruz said.

He noted that Hirsh had a fear of public speaking but broke out of her shell and gave it her all.

"The fact that I could facilitate this and see it come in full circle, to see them win is just icing on the cake," he said.

Rota's Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr./Sr. High School senior students Mona Manglona and Randee-Jo Barcinas-Manglona won second place in the senior-division.

"This event is more than a competition. It is important because we get a chance to showcase our talents and how we feel about our culture and identity," Manglona said.

The Rota duo won third place in last year's edition of the competition.

Barcinas-Manglona said she feels like the event gives her "a chance to embrace culture."

Saipan Southern High School sophomore Mikhail T. Alcantara won third place.

Rota schools dominate junior division

Three students from the island of Rota bested 19 other students from Saipan and Tinian in the junior division of the competition. This division required participants to recite a poem selected from Sengebau's compilation of poems, *Microchild*

Calvo, who won first place, said she "gave it my best" and recognized the importance of paying tribute to the late Sengebau.

"It is important to honor him because he is a great poet and he wrote many amazing poems that bring meaning to our culture," said Calvo, a 7th grade student at Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja.

ESFDB principal Carmen H. Atalig flew to Saipan to watch her students perform and shared that she is proud of all her students who presented and was impressed by the caliber of the young poets.

"They worked hard and they deserve this win," she said.

ESFDB's Angelica S. Lucero won second place while Rota's Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr./Sr. High School's Richelle Mae Aldabe got third place.

Local historian Don Farrell, Guam Preservation Trust program officer Rosanna Barcinas, and CNMI Motheread Program designated site coordinator Brian Manabat served as the judges.

"The performances today were outstanding," Farrell said. "I thoroughly enjoyed it. Their demonstration and courage to perform and the creative work recited is just outstanding."

The winners received $250 for first place, $150 for second and $100 for third.

The event is organized by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and is named after the late Palaun poet Valentine Sengebau who composed poems that expressed the personal joys and sorrows of his life and the issues of the day.

"This is one of our signature programs," said Eulalia S. Villagomez, NMI Humanities Council program officer. "I am happy that we have many schools participating in this competition and spreading the work of Valentine Sengebau."

SOLAR

From Page 1

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. separately told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the findings of the study—which has yet to be finalized—are "very favorable for integrating distributed renewable energy generation."

Inos said the ACE contract will be awarded "pretty soon."

ACE will sell power to CUC at 18 cents per kilowatt-hour, which the governor said is much lower than the current cost of over 30 cents to almost 40 cents per KwH.

Inos said ACE won the bid for a 10MW solar power project but "there was a question whether or not the grid will be able to handle it."

Now that the results of the study show that the current grid can handle certain amounts of alternative energy, the award of contract to ACE can now proceed, he added.

"We need to know the capacity of our grid system—that part is done," he said.

Alan W. Fletcher, CUC executive director, confirmed yesterday that the KEMA renewable energy integration study is "near complete" but the technical work for it "has been completed."

"As for the technical aspects, it is very favorable for integrating distributed renewable energy generation. There are provisos attached to those recommendations by size and location," he said.

But he said the end report still needs to be finalized.

Fletcher said CUC will be meeting with KEMA soon to finalize the report, at which time CUC will be able to discuss its findings.

He also said that CUC "is talking again with American Capital Energy [ACE] on a solar project."

"ACE is the successful proposer on a past RFP; however, discussions were put on hold until the study is completed. While the technical data in the study has yet to be fully processed by ACE, this information will assist in negotiations and will help determine if a deal can be done, at what price and what terms," he said.

Inos, meanwhile, said that investors continue to come into the CNMI, wanting to go into the utility business or as independent power producers.

"We've been meeting with CUC to speed up the process," the governor said, so that utility consumers will start seeing a decrease in rates.

The governor added that CUC will be issuing an RFP soon for geothermal energy exploration.

Cost of power

While he remains optimistic, Fletcher said it is important to point out that adding a solar project may not significantly impact rates.

He said intermittent renewable energy projects are not necessarily less expensive than the current supply due to capital costs, financing risk, and base-load requirements.

"That noted, removing an increment of power from the volatility of oil markets should pay out in the long run," he said.

Fletcher said CUC is constantly looking at efficiencies to help consumers.

He cited as an example a 25-percent increase in engine efficiency in the last few years—"saving over $11 million annually in fuel costs."

"Also, in order to develop the best energy solutions for the CNMI, CUC will be commissioning an Integrated Resource Plan," he said.

The IRP is a series of plans and proposals designed to determine what base-load generation and renewable energy opportunities are commercially available and cost-effective.

The focus, according to Fletcher, will be to provide the most cost-efficient new power source for consumers.

CUC is working with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory on the IRP's design and ultimate procurement.

"Governor Inos has been very supportive in these endeavors and looks forward to results. Of course, the ultimate goal of all this work is to reduce the cost of energy in the power, water, and wastewater utilities for the people of CNMI," Fletcher added.

CUC is required by law to derive at least 40 percent of its energy from renewable or alternative sources by 2012 but this was not met and even CUC says this is "unrealistic."

'Optimistic'

Besides renewable energy investments, the government—through the Department of Public Lands—is also close to selecting a firm that will be allowed to lease public lands in San Antonio and Marpi for the development of new hotels with at least 200 rooms.

"I'm really optimistic. I think tourism is really picking up," Inos said, referring to record tourist arrivals and hotel occupancy.

The Marianas Visitors Authority reported yesterday that September 2013 visitor arrivals to the CNMI jumped 9 percent compared to September 2012 or from 30,472 to 33,329 visitors.

Fiscal year 2013 visitor arrivals totaled 433,735, an 11-percent increase compared to fiscal year 2012 and returning the NMI to visitor arrival levels last seen a decade ago, MVA said.

The governor said there have also been increased spending and increased economic activities.

Inos also said the government continues to receive inquiries from investors wanting to get involved in video lottery operations as well as electronic gaming and casino gambling on Saipan.

Video lottery operation is now law, the regulations are being finalized, and an RFP will soon be issued for those interested in operating video lottery.

As for the electronic gaming and Saipan casino gaming, Inos said they are not law yet, referring to bills still pending at the Legislature.

VISITOR

From Page 1

Overall, arrivals from Japan in fiscal year 2013 were down 1 percent compared to fiscal year 2012, compared with a drop of 6.5 percent for Japan's overall outbound market, meaning that travel to the CNMI from Japan has outperformed the overall market. At 148,343 arrivals, Japan retains its position as the CNMI's number one source of overseas visitors, although that position is being threatened by rapidly rising arrivals from Korea and China.

Arrivals from Korea soared 23 percent in September to 10,848 visitors, more than any other source market. Overall, arrivals from Korea were up 6 percent to 135,458 in fiscal year 2013 compared to the previous fiscal year. Korean arrivals are projected to continue rising rapidly with the announcement of a new airline launching service from Korea to the CNMI. Dynamic Airways will launch new flights from Seoul to Saipan from Oct. 30, flying twice a week Wednesday and Saturdays and adding another 26,000 annual seats out of the Korean market. These new flights alone will ensure continuous strong growth out of the Korea market for the coming year.

Meanwhile, arrivals from China jumped 48 percent in September to 9,760 visitors. Overall, arrivals from China were up 43 percent in fiscal year 2013 compared to the previous fiscal year, reaching 112,570 visitors, which is an all-time record high. The MVA is particularly placing emphasis on positioning the CNMI as a Sports Paradise for Chinese visitors, for example working with leading online booking portals in China to launch new package tours surrounding Hell of the Marianas in December 2013. Continued rapid growth is projected out of the China market for the remainder of this year, with travel projected to peak this month during the national holidays.

Finally, arrivals from Russia soared by 164 percent to 526. Arrivals from Russia nearly doubled in fiscal year 2013 to 11,002 compared to fiscal year 2012. In response to this phenomenal growth out of the Russia market, the MVA has decided to launch its first-ever year-round marketing program in the Russia market effective Oct. 1, targeting primarily Vladivostok and Khabarovsk in the East Russia market with campaigns designed to support the rapidly growing number of charter flights from East Russia to the CNMI, and to work closely hand-in-hand with AVIACHARTERS and Asiana Airlines on numerous one-stop flight promotions out of Russia to the CNMI. ***(MVA)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 19th birthday to our baby sister Rosalaine Togawa! We want to wish you nothing but the best that life has to offer! You've grown to be a wonderful young adult and we hope you know that! May the Lord bless you with many more birthdays to come. With love, the Marquez-Togawa family.

House OKs Saipan electronic gaming bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

After almost two hours of debate mainly on feared social ill-effects of gambling versus the need to generate new revenues in the face of growing government obligations, the House of Representatives approved yesterday by a vote of 14-5 a bill allowing electronic gaming in hotels with at least 100 rooms and only on Saipan.

At the same time, the House passed a Senate-amended bill funding the pension of retirees who opted out of a global settlement deal in *Johnson v Inos*. The bill now goes to the governor for action.

The House passed Rep. Tony Sablan's (Ind-Saipan) electronic gaming bill in a format approved by a joint House-Senate committee.

House Bill 18-51, House Draft 4, Senate Substitute 1, Conference Committee Draft 1 also has to pass the Senate before heading to the governor for action.

This comes a little over two weeks after Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into law another gaming measure, video lottery.

The governor, in a news briefing yesterday, said the draft regulations for the video lottery law are almost done.

Once the regulations are finalized, that's the time the government will issue a request for proposal for investors interested in operating video lottery.

The governor also noted that a House-passed Saipan casino gambling bill remains with the Senate.

"You know times have changed. What do we need to do? We're at a point where we really need to address areas that will generate revenue," the governor told reporters.

Electronic gaming

Of the 19 members present in yesterday afternoon's House session, 14 voted "yes" to the electronic gaming bill while five voted "no." The bill passed at 4:54pm, almost two hours after discussions started.

House Vice Speaker Frank Dela Cruz (Ind-Saipan) was the most vocal opponent of the bill, and has been consistently opposed to any gambling measure. He cited the social ill-effects of gambling and expressed concern that these would rise once electronic gaming becomes law.

The others who voted "no" were minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan), Reps. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), Edmund Villagomez (Cov-Saipan), and Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan). The rest voted "yes," while Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan) was absent.

"There are many questions regarding gaming and its social effects as of right now. The bill does not have proper regulations or safeguards to ensure there are no ill effects on society. I understand the earmarking and those are important issues but there are other means that we will continue to look into," Camacho told *Saipan Tribune.*

Sablan, the bill's main author and chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, said members can speculate on all the good and bad things about electronic gaming but unless the industry is given a chance, there is no telling what the actual impacts will be in the face of huge government obligations, including more than $20 million annually that needs to be paid to a global settlement fund.

"We can't just sit around and do nothing," Sablan said, adding that strict "enforcement" will address most of the concerns from members opposed to the bill.

Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) echoed Sablan's statement that the implementing regulations will address worries about social concerns.

The speaker, along with other members, said that unlike poker machines that are found in villages, electronic gaming machines will be confined to hotels and are subject to more strict regulations.

A new section also makes businesses engaged in gambling "ineligible for a qualifying certificate, which provides tax breaks to certain businesses.

The governor supports this. "I do not support QC benefit for a gambling-type operation… It's not an industry that the general public embraces. To give them that added benefit is just pushing the envelope," he said.

Opt-out funding

By a vote of 16-2 with Tebuteb voting "present" and one absent, the retiree opt-out funding bill passed the House at 5:07pm yesterday, sending the measure to the governor for action.

Prior to the House session, members met with the governor's special assistant for management and budget Vicky Villagomez on the Senate amendment to insert the $107,258 that the governor earlier identified for this purpose.

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Woman hurt in fall at CHC awarded $133,140

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center and the Division of Public Health and Environmental Services were found liable yesterday to pay at least $133,000 in damages to a woman who was injured from a fall at CHC due to a water leak a few years ago.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman awarded Camacho $2,915.17 in special damages, $34,600 for past pain and suffering, $45,625 for future pain and suffering, and $50,000 for loss of enjoyment of life, for a total of $133,140.17.

In his order yesterday, Wiseman said a party is "entitled to recover damages from harm suffered as a result of negligence for past or prospective bodily harm, emotional distress, reasonable medical and other expenses, among other provisions."

CHC, the division, and Camacho have agreed that the latter incurred $1,501.17 in medical expenses related to her fall.

Camacho initially asked for $384,895.17 in total damages, but ultimately asked for only $290,720.17 after agreeing to a 25-percent reduction due to other aggravating factors regarding her condition.

CHC and the division had argued that Camacho suffered several incidents after the fall that aggravated her condition.

One of that was an altercation between Camacho, two of her sisters, and a niece that led to a scuffle. In that incident, the women fell to the ground, one of the sisters and the niece grabbed Camacho's hair, and her other sister stepped on her legs, hurting her back.

Wiseman said that Camacho told CHC emergency room personnel a few months after the fight that she lost consciousness for five minutes after she was dragged by her hair down a couple of steps. Camacho's final diagnosis included back pain and anxiety.

The defendants noted a second altercation wherein Camacho was again brought to the emergency room because her husband shook her, she fell to the sidewalk in front of a hotel, and was dragged five feet, hurting her knee and head.

A third incident had Camacho being brought to the emergency room again after her husband allegedly forced a laundry basket into her hand, injuring her thumb.

The defendants asserted that Camacho is a victim of domestic violence and this is also a causal and aggravating factor in the depression she claims.

For special damages, Wiseman awarded Camacho $720 for future physical therapy plus the stipulated CHC costs of $1,501.17 as well as $694 for pain-relieving products, for a total of $2,915.17.

For past pain and suffering, Camacho requested a total of $94,200 but Wiseman awarded her only $34,600.

For future pain and suffering, Camacho demanded $182,500. Wiseman gave her $45,625.

For loss of enjoyment of life, Camacho demanded $100,000. Wiseman gave her just $50,000, determining that her complaints are partially a cause of other contributing factors in her life.

The judge declined to award court costs, saying plaintiff failed to specify what these costs are.

Attorney David Banes is counsel for Camacho. Assistant attorney general David Lochabay represented CHC and the division.

MHS to hold student outreach on STDs

Marianas High School will be working in collaboration with Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s Division of Public Health, HIV/STD Prevention Program to educate its students in the area of sexually transmitted diseases, or STDs, including HIV. This outreach activity suits the purpose of educating MHS students on:

- How to access counseling and testing services for HIV and other common STDs;
- What the signs and symptoms are of STDs;
- Information on the current STD data in the CNMI; and
- Information on the medical and social services available in the community.

Certified counselors will be available on site to assess at-risk students and offer free and confidential HIV and STD testing. Outreach activity will be held at MHS gymnasium on Tuesday, Oct. 29, and Wednesday, Oct. 30, from 8:30am to 3pm. ***(MHS)***

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council and the family of former representative Pedro Cogure Arriola pose for a group photo at the Saipan and Northern Islands Leadership Memorial Kiosku Wednesday.

Municipal Council honors Pete Arriola

The 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council last Wednesday presented the family of the late Pedro "Pete" Cogure Arriola a posthumous commemorative resolution for his "outstanding public service and untold public contributions to the development and progress of the CNMI."

Arriola, a former Saipan representative, died on Oct. 2 in Manila, Philippines.

Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho said that Arriola's dedication to public service was best exemplified as an elected member of the House of Representatives in the 5th Legislature.

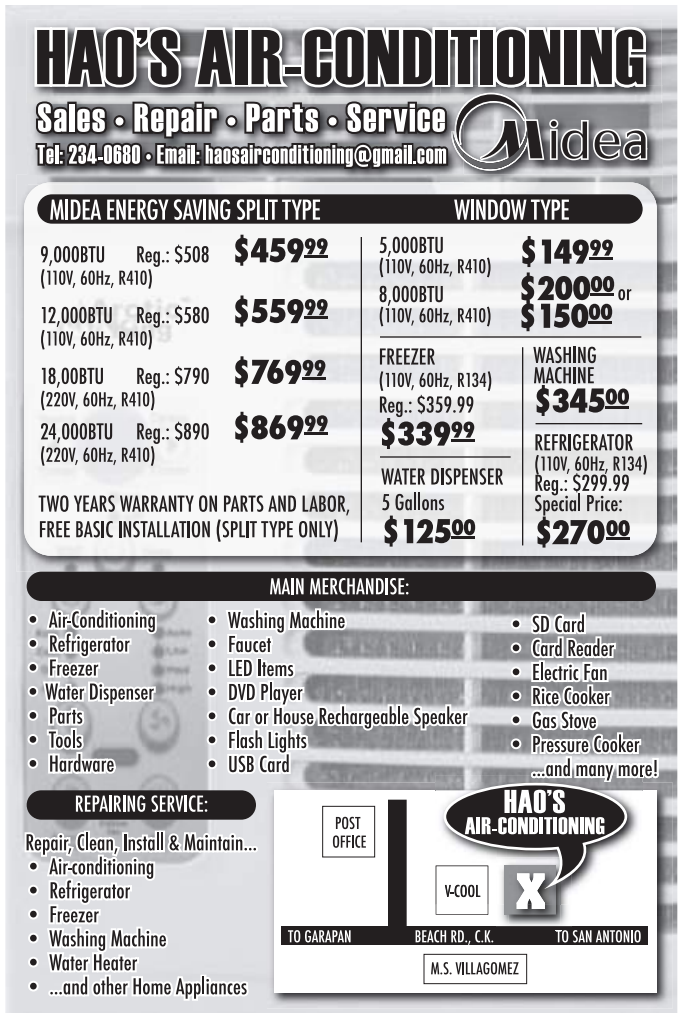
He also served in various capacities in the Department of Finance, most notably as director of Finance and Accounting; chief administrative officer for the office of minority representatives in the 7th Legislature; and committee consultant on Health, Education and Welfare in the 6th Legislature.

"Arriola was driven by his passion for renewable and alternative energy for conservation and energy cost reduction, increased funding for public schools, increased fiscal accountability by elected officials over the use of public funds, transparency in the use of public funds in government and in the community, restoration of medical referral funding, and focus on preventative health education on obesity and related diseases, among others," said Camacho.

In private life, Arriola served as internal auditor for Bank of Saipan, a substitute teacher in Math at Mt. Carmel School, was founder of PKCL Enterprises Apartments, and was a member of the Association of Government Accountants.

Arriola was born in April 23, 1954. He was the son of Luis Sablan Arriola and Maria Kogure Arriola.

He is survived by his wife Luzviminda Fabricante Arriola and their children Luis Vincent, Chela Marie, Kimberly, and Peter. ***(Mark Rabago)***



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Judiciary gets new high-performance scanner

A new Rapiscan 622XR x-ray scanner has been installed at the main entrance to the CNMI Judiciary as part of the courthouse's security enhancement. Funding from CNMI Homeland Security, arranged with the help of Marvin K. Seman, special assistant for Homeland Security, made the procurement of the sophisticated equipment possible.

The Rapiscan 622XR is fully compliant with U.S. Code of Federal Regulations requirements for performance and occupational-safety and health standards for ionizing radiation emitting products. Its dual energy detection provides automatic material discrimination so that screeners can identify the material composition of the scanned object.

The TSA is providing members of the Marshals Service Division the necessary training to operate the x-ray machine, which will identify prohibited items hidden in bags, purses, or other personal belonging entering the courthouse.

NMI JUDICIARY

The new high performance Rapiscan 622XR scanner is now in use at the CNMI Judiciary.

Among the most common items prohibited in the Judiciary are betel nuts, lighters, knives, and blades. Guns of any kind are prohibited as are mace, pepper spray, and pressurized containers that contain flammable substances. Screwdrivers, letter openers, and glass bottle drinks are prohibited, as well as common household items such as can openers, knitting needles, ice picks, and toy guns.

Ursula Lifoifoi-Aldan, deputy director for Judicial Enforcement and Security, said, "The new scanning equipment further ensures firearms or other dangerous objects are not brought into the courtroom, significantly improving courthouse security for the public, judges and staff." ***(NMI Judiciary)***

Proposal will expand Call-a-Ride Saipan services

The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority is giving 30-day notice that its Call-a-Ride Saipan paratransit (specialized) service will be expanded to include and serve other riders from the general public in need of transportation to get around the island.

The new service will take effect Dec. 1, 2013, and will continue until the new Saipan fixed-flex route system is fully implemented. After that, the CARS service will resume its paratransit (specialized) system serving qualified riders with disabilities and the elderly.

The Call-a-Ride Saipan is a demand-response curb-to-curb service that requires advance reservation and is a first-come, first-serve transport service; however, riders with disabilities and older adults (55 and older) have priority reservation.

New passenger policy

Open to the public (e.g., passengers with low income, under 55 of age, college students, or any other person that needs public transportation). Children between 5 and 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult. Full name, physical and mailing address, primary/secondary contact numbers (residential and cell phones preferred), and map of residence are required upon initial reservation.

Destinations

Passengers can be picked up at any location and taken to any destination anywhere on Saipan, including shopping centers, schools or college, banks, recreation or amusement centers, personal/medical appointments, community events, jobsite, and airport.

Service hours, dates

Call-A-Ride Saipan service is available Monday to Friday, from 6am to 9pm and on Saturday from 8am to 5pm. Service closed on Sundays and holidays.

Reservations

To make reservations for your ride, you can call up to seven days in advance. Trips are scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis. The reservation office is open from 8am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. To make reservations call (670) 664-2276 or email at cota@gov.mp.

Fares

All fares are for a one-way trip or per segment. Eligible riders pay $5. There is a $5 for no-shows.

Advance Purchase (Vouchers/PASS) per round-trip:

- Weekly (6 days): $57 (savings of $3)
- Bi-Weekly (12 days): $108 (savings of $12)
- Monthly (24 days): $204 (savings of $36)
- Children under 5 years old: Free (must be accompanied by an adult)

Exact change is required as drivers do not carry change.

Carry-on baggage policy

Carry-on packages are permitted provided they can be placed in a location where they will not interfere with the entrance, exit, or free use of the aisles by passengers. They must not in any way compromise the safe operation of the vehicle or the safety of all passengers. The Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority offers curb-to-curb service. However, drivers may assist with the loading and unloading of packages meeting the above criteria if the passenger so requests. Visit www.cota.gov.mp to view or download the complete carry-on baggage policy and procedure.

For questions or comments about this proposed service expansion plan, call COTA at 664-2276 or email at cota@gov.mp. ***(COTA)***

MARK RABAGO

COMMEMORATIVE RESOLUTION

Members of the 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council members join the family of the late Francisco M. Diaz for a group photo on Wednesday after presenting a commemorative resolution to Remedio Diaz, widow of Saipan's first-ever elected mayor, at the Saipan and Northern Islands Memorial Leadership Kiosku. Other photo shows 12th Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho presenting the resolution to Remedio Diaz. To Camacho's right are municipal council vice chair and secretary Antonia M. Tudela and councilman Diego T. Kaipat.

SOCCER LESSONS CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Immanuel Methodist Church is hosting soccer lessons as part of its Sunday school activity, starting at 9am at Immanuel UMC, Chalan Kanoa. The invitation is for children ages 7 to 18. For more information, contact Sol B. Corpuz at 989-0955.

WSU senior puts Eggert Family Organic Farm on the map

At 30 acres, the Eggert Family Organic Farm may soon be the largest organic teaching farm on a university campus in the U.S., but Washington State University landscape architecture student AJ Roberto Babauta can tell you about every inch of it.

"If you walk onto the farm, and describe what's around you, I can probably tell you where you are," said Babauta, a senior in WSU's LA program in the School of Design and Construction.

Babauta was a summer intern for the new Eggert Family Organic Farm. The farm's expansion from its current four-acre site was made possible by a $9.45 million gift from Chuck and Loanna Eggert and their family in April 2012. Development of the farm is led by the WSU Department of Crop and Soil Sciences in collaboration with the WSU Institute for Sustainable Design.

For the first part of the summer, Babauta walked back and forth across the property with a backpack carrying GPS satellite tracking equipment. The coordinates and data transferred to a geographic information system, or GIS, program that generated a precise three-dimensional surface model of the farm to use for design and engineering analysis.

Babauta also recorded the coordinates of each of the 128 newly planted trees in the farm's orchard, allowing for the development of an interactive map that gives farmers information on each tree variety, root system, size, fruit, and treatment. Babauta's summer mapping is using state-of-the-art technology and modeling to improve the design of small and mid-size farms, a sector somewhat left behind by the radical technological advances seen in large-scale agriculture. Understanding and electronically recording the micro-level geographic information helps farmers manage regulations, speeds up farm inspections, and can also help improve crop production and energy and water efficiency.

It also complements the class project Babauta did with other landscape architecture students in the spring. They studied the microclimates of different points of interest on the farmland to help decide where the farm's pavilion should be located.

"We took into consideration the wind, sun shadow, whether or not there was water nearby, the viewing vantage—all to better understand the site and where the pavilion would work best with the landscape," Babauta said. The space selected for the pavilion is on a slight ridge on the southwest side of the property, a location that can act as a hub of activity for field work, harvest, classes, meetings, and visitors.

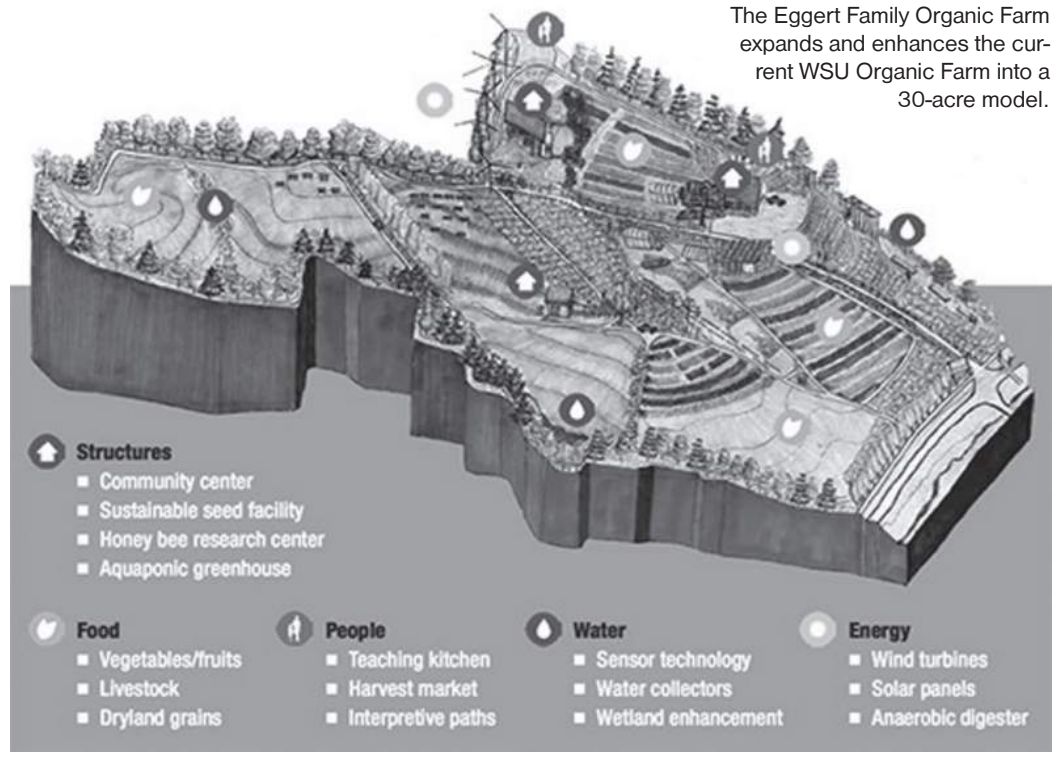
Todd Beyreuther, director of the WSU Integrated Design Lab, is leading the design team for the pavilion. "When we selected that spot, I just thought of it as a nice choice," Babauta said. "Now that I've also been working on the WSU Organic Farm and see what a central role its pavilion plays, I understand how the location on the Eggert Farm is truly the right place—it has the best relationship between landscape and the services provided by the pavilion."

RACHEL WEBBER

AJ Babauta, a senior in landscape architecture at WSU, talks about the pavilion at the 2013 Organic Farm Field Day.

A former Saipan resident, Babauta graduated from Saipan's Seventh Day Adventist, moved to Seattle, and graduated from Inglemoor High School in Kenmore, Washington. He is currently attending WSU majoring in landscape architecture.

"AJ had received awards and portfolio recognition for his designs and portfolios from WSU and we are extremely proud of his accomplishments so far," said his mom, Grace Babauta. "We continue to wish him well in his future endeavors." ***(WSU)***



The Eggert Family Organic Farm expands and enhances the current WSU Organic Farm into a 30-acre model.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXIII, Issue No. 213

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

NSA, France and spy wars

French authorities are shocked—shocked—to learn that the American government is spying on French citizens. The Foreign Ministry summoned the U.S. ambassador to the Quai D'Orsay to inform him that what's going on is "unacceptable," and President Francois Hollande claimed to have issued a stern rebuke to President Obama in a phone conversation.

At issue is the allegation—in a Le Monde article by Glenn Greenwald based on documents leaked by former National Security Agency contractor Edward Snowden—that the NSA carried out massive electronic surveillance within France, including collecting 70.3 million pieces of data on phone calls in a single month. Much remains unclear, but the article suggested that the surveillance may have been aimed not just at suspected terrorists but also at businessmen, politicians and others.

Naturally, the French would be outraged. What government would be happy to learn that a close ally was secretly monitoring its people? Then again, it was revealed in 2010 that France conducts its own espionage activities here on U.S. soil. What's more, French officials have been aware of the NSA program in France for months. Oh, and also, France's intelligence agencies have established an electronic surveillance system of their own that monitors their citizens' phone conversations, emails, texts and even their Twitter posts.

This is the way things work in the shadowy world we've been learning about from Snowden's leaks, a world of hypocrisy, deceit and assertions of shock and indignation, seemingly lifted from the pages of John le Carre. The latest lesson: Friends spy on friends. In recent years it has emerged that the NSA has also been spying in Mexico, Germany and Brazil. And Canada spied

See NSA on Next Page

The power of protests

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a resident of Saipan teaching at the Shenyang Aerospace University in China. His email is pinoypanda2031@aol.com.

We remember a hundred thousand citizens in a Vietnam War march in Washington, D.C. in the late '60s peacefully protesting the war, culminating in an Allen Ginsburg comedic chant to levitate the Pentagon, but turning ugly when edgy U.S. Marshals clashed with overzealous marchers.

An earlier peaceful march at the Lincoln Memorial catapulted MLK and his dream to acceptability in the mainstream media that would sadly deteriorate when it became obvious that fighting poverty cannot be won as the nation dipped into the national pocketbook to fund an undeclared war in Asia. The marriage of the civil rights and anti-Vietnam war protests made confrontations ugly as hell.

The breach in civility had always been a component of radical movements, but when ordinary citizens who normally tend to their gardens on weekends start taking to the streets, the ordinary gets drawn into the revolutionary fervor.

Today, Main Street awakens to the limitations of Wall Street's market-oriented directions where the demand for oil, a pillar of the U.S. economy and the driving force on why war erupts in places where there are commercial quantities of natural gas and fossil fuel, leads to fracking the oil-rich Alberta tar sands, transporting crude through pipelines like the one from Canada to Texas in the Keystone system.

A couple of our acquaintances in Houston, well into their 80s, are protesting the construction of the pipeline from Oklahoma to the Gulf. A more controversial line extends from Alberta to Colorado.

As a university student in the United States in the mid-'60s, protest was the potent form of making one's policy position expressed. We dropped out of school when the diploma we sought from halfway across the globe to achieve became irrelevant. We only had two class papers to complete to acquire the degree. Though we returned to the university two years later to fulfill our degree requirement, the achievement was no longer our passion. We had to get on with life and that meant returning to the people we left behind that we vowed earlier to serve.

I returned to the country of my birth with a suburban Chicago *da lao po* (primal spouse). Raised in Glen Ellyn west of the windy city, a classmate to the Bill Ayers of the Weather Underground of the Students for Democratic Society, my wife was more forward looking than her peers. She brought her progressive ideas and radical stance with her as we crafted a marriage with two daughters in village development in the Philippines and many places around the world.

We recall all these because on the plane back from Honolulu to China, we watched Robert Redford's recent film *The Company You Keep* with a cast that included Susan Sarandon, Julie Christie, Nick Nolte, and current heartthrob Shia LaBeouf. The story line is that of a former Weather Underground member, Jim Grant played by Redford, who had been on the lam for 30 years after being implicated in a bank heist that cost a security guard his life. He changed identity and quietly practiced law in Albany.

Sarandon's character is an unrepentant ideologue. She intentionally blew cover, after weaning her children to "leave home," to continue her cause. LaBeouf plays a hungry and persistent upstate journalist who smelled a national story. He exposed Redford who ran a few steps ahead of law enforcement to try to prove his innocence through a former lover played by Julie Christie with whom he had a daughter. A former sheriff close to Julie's family adopted the daughter and had kept the secret of real parentage.

The low-key but suspenseful movie kept us from precious sleep over the Western Pacific skies as we watched the Sundance kid become the shriveled-up sun-dried kind at 75 reprising issues that remain relevant even today.

While political protest did not stop the Vietnam War, economics did. Lyndon Johnson realized the folly of fighting two fronts—poverty and Vietnam—at once, and smartly refrained from seeking a second term as President. That did not deter migrant Texan George W. Bush from opening the national coffers later to pay for two military wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, handing his successor a battered economy on a platter!

If protests in the '60s were perceived as coming from the political Left, of communist sympathies with a small "c", today's protests comes from the political Right, the Conservatives with a capital "C". Canada-born Texas aenator Ted Cruz has become a spokesperson, and a raucous tea party its loyal troopers. It's a defensive protest over policies sympathetic to the downtrodden and the underdog, aka blacks and immigrants. To this crowd, the White House occupant Barack Obama is a socialist foreigner with a capital "S".

The dialectics of protest in policy deliberations, deliberately confrontational and nasty, is bedrock of parliamentary procedures, embedded in the Western psyche, sadly aped by pseudo-democracies in their tiered social stratifications. U.S. educator Bill Ayers espoused a non-coercive freewheeling education style, relying on human intuition more than status-conditioned cognition. We lean toward the same direction.

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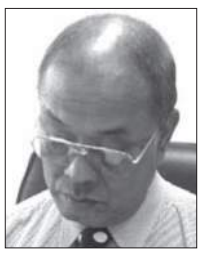
Wrestling with piles of debts



By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*

With a cumulative deficit of some $1.4 billion, the local economy is now on autopilot. It means we would chime "que sera, sera" watching if it takes off somewhere, anywhere, or nowhere! Call it ad hoc planning where growth is a discouraging word and the skies are fearfully cloudy all day.

Nonetheless, the woefully poor fiscal posture of the local government is a concern for most folks with any sense of humility and responsibility. You quiz why hasn't anything been done to reverse the persistent slide of revenue generation. The band-aid answers are so far removed from any appreciable goal to inflict tidal shift in significant revenue losses.

Are they even aware that debilitating economic conditions can't be placed on autopilot? While the economy sinks, retirees suffer a 25-percent cut in pension, more debts pile up at CUC, and the guys have seen fit to ignore substantive fiduciary duty. Is this anywhere near serious policymaking?

Then there's the much-touted so-called "economic model" being dangled by the local Department of Commerce as though the Holy Grail to end all economic miseries. Question: Were key players a part of the economic model or were they simply relegated to accepting what has been prepared? So their role is reduced to ceremonial over substantive contributions, *di ba*?

The scattershot method would only exacerbate current economic conditions suffering from the lack of a fully thought-out blueprint that is subject to refinement. Nearby Guam has an inclusive plan it revisits when the intended goal misses the point. We may soon have one that would gather dust as the political season sets in. The net effect is simple: more dystopia.

The CNMI has lost a lot, from investments to the tune of $7 billion, to human resources of more than 3,000 families who have relocated to Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. mainland. The bridge of paradise has crashed into the deep blue.

What's the prospect of rebuilding it so we persuade our people to return home once more? Indeed, it's a question any leader worth his salt must seriously address and resolve. There's no more room for excuses or room to continue advancing failed policies!

China fills investments with ASEAN

While President Obama canceled his ASEAN trip to take care of domestic issues at home, China took advantage of the missing American leadership to forge economic deals with members of the Asian organization.

The collateral damage is the dispersion of allied countries whose commitment for stronger economic ties with China compromises our Asian security posture. However our generous monetary, technology, and weaponry contributions, I doubt that they would put their best foot forward when asked to stand by our side on security issues.

Obama had to domesticate a dysfunctional beltway. Thus, he had to forego participation in the recently concluded ASEAN and APEC meeting brought forth what's known in many cultures as the "face."

"Scott D. Seligman, a historian, former Fortune 500 business executive, and author of *Chinese Business Etiquette,* among other insightful China-focused books, explains that in Chinese, as in English, the definition of 'face' includes that space between a person's forehead and chin—one's eyes, nose and mouth. But for Chinese and many others in Asia, face also describes a somewhat intangible (difficult or impossible to define; vague or abstract) to understand concept that is tied to notions of personal dignity and respect," according to Curtis S. Chin in a column in The Japan Times.

"Losing face in Asia can have a lot more consequence than momentary embarrassment. People think of you differently. Credibility erodes. Power, prestige, influence and even expectations of your abilities can decline. So, understandably the White House is likely hoping that Obama's cancellation of a planned trip to Southeast Asia due to a Washington budget impasse is met with some understanding. It was in no way intended as a slap in the face of counterparts at this month's Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Indonesia and East Asia Summit in Brunei.

"Yet, with 'about-face' after 'about-face' on Syria by the U.S. president these past weeks and his inability to prevent the partial shutdown of the U.S. federal government, the view from Asia of recent American leadership—whether presidential or congressional—is not necessarily a positive one. That does not bode well for the so-called pivot, or rebalance in U.S. policy, toward Asia.

"This is after all a region of the world where there remains tremendous respect for not just thoughtful but also strong and decisive leaders. The Singapore senior statesman, Lee Kuan Yew, who as prime minister took his nation from Third World to First World in a few decades and who just celebrated his 90th birthday, is a leading example.

See WRESTLING on Page 13

NSA

From Page 10

on Brazil. And the U.S. spied on the United Nations. And there's no reason to think it ends there.

All of which raises some important questions: Is there any meaningful difference between bugging your own citizens and bugging someone else's? (Under American law, the U.S. has more leeway to bug other countries' citizens than its own.) Is there a difference between a spy stealing secrets from an ally—like Jonathan Pollard, who has spent more than 25 years in prison for stealing American secrets on behalf of Israel—and a surveillance program that targets the secrets of an entire nation? Is privacy a luxury of the past? Should we all assume our conversations are being overheard, if not by our government then by someone else's?

The White House, embarrassed yet again thanks to Snowden's revelations, now says it is reviewing the way the U.S. gathers intelligence "so that we properly balance the legitimate security concerns of our citizens and allies with the privacy concerns that all people share." That's a good start. There's a whole lot to consider.

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Who is watching the NSA?

Disturbing revelations about the voracious appetite of the National Security Agency for personal email and instant messaging accounts stir a basic question: Where is Congress and the executive branch?

Who is looking out for the rights of Americans? Apparently no one.

The NSA, which already legally collects U.S. call records, also collects contact lists. The Washington Post reports the agency is not authorized by Congress or the special intelligence court created by the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to gather this data.

Collecting the information is illegal in the U.S., so the NSA does its work overseas. This is a variation on endlessly holding terror suspects in foreign jails and torturing them outside of U.S. legal restrictions.

Irony of ironies, the NSA is collecting communications data at a volume that has imperiled the capacities of storage repositories.

Both Congress and the executive branch come off badly. Lawmakers are fully empowered to hold hearings, ask questions and rewrite budgets if they do not like the answers or outcomes. President Obama is absolutely responsible for how the money is spent, and this bald evasion of the law does not reflect well on the Harvard Law School grad.

Unnamed officials tell the Post that Americans should not be worried because the sleuths are only looking for links to terrorist plotters. All that personal stuff is safe.

Right, it is safe until some low-ranking employee with a big security clearance decides the world ought to know whom ordinary Americans are communicating with.

That kind of random decision is how Americans know about this profound level of surveillance; former NSA contractor Edward Snowden leaked the secrets before he fled to Russia.

Hundreds of millions of communication contacts could be dumped by someone else who perceives a higher purpose.

Get Congress involved, and wake up the White House.

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The severed hand

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

There's a severed hand on my desk.

It's sitting next to a giant velvet spider and some polyvinyl-chloride bats. Ah, the wonders of commerce, especially as Halloween kicks off the fun season. Thousands of shipping containers have braved the Pacific's lanes just to ensure that guys like me don't run short on plastic hands and bats.

I surveyed a shop to check up on the latest inventory of Halloween candy. As you probably know, it comes in little packages typically labeled "fun" sized.

Using "fun" to describe "really small" is a good lesson in English, since it leads to the term "euphemism" to be followed by the word "marketing."

If I was a candy marketing guru, I would have called it "treat" size, which plays the same trick, but uses a relevant term that at least lends some credibility to the ploy.

Anyway, I noticed that all the old-school favorites are available, and I'll note some famous contenders here: Milky Way, Snickers, and Baby Ruth.

Milky Way and Snickers are made by Mars Inc., which is the third-largest privately-held company in the U.S. Mars did about $33 billion in sales last year.

Baby Ruth is from Nestle, which is a household name under the U.S. flag but it's really a Swiss company and an international powerhouse.

I think that anyone stocked with these three candy bars would be well-equipped for Halloween, but there's more to life than candy bars. Let's not forget Milk Duds (made by Hershey).

In deference to my gray hair and the better habits that should go with it, I no longer gobble up every piece of candy within radar range. So I decided to test just one brand of candy for this season just to ensure it's up to snuff. I picked Milk Duds.

And, may I say, the 2013 vintage of Milk Duds has proven quite good. They are sweet, yet not overbearing. The texture is smooth, dare I say refined, but not elusively coy. And, though their firmness is yielding, it is never gratuitously receptive.

I don't remember where I put my checkbook, and I can't recall what I had for lunch, but I recollect with perfect clarity what the houses in my neighborhood handed out for Halloween when I was a kid. One place, a two-story Tudor with a slate roof, gave out full-sized Clark bars every year. Talk about a class act.

But not everyone got in the spirit of things. There was always one place that would reward our trick-or-treat efforts with an apple. An apple? What's next, a hard-boiled egg? Prunes? A hunk of Brie cheese?

It was never a good apple, by the way, not something crisp like a Red Delicious or a Fuji. No, these were always cheap, nasty, mushy apples.

Not even my dentist pals hand out apples, and they usually react to sugar like Dracula reacts to a cross made of die-cast garlic.

That being said, I'll admit that the sugar-express is not a ticket worth buying for a long trip, and the older I get, the more evidence I see of that around me. But I'm not the arbiter of holiday traditions, I'm just a guy in a beach chair. I'll shift my chair to accommodate the changing tides, so I really don't care which way they move.

Anyway, we're just now entering the best patch of the calendar. From Halloween until January 1of next year, we've got all sorts of reasons to goof off, eat, buy stuff, travel, ignore boring people, and enjoy good company.

I like noting the highlights so I can look forward to stuff: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Black Friday (the retail frenzy the day after Thanksgiving; my wife's specialty), Cyber Monday (Black Friday's Web-based echo; my specialty), Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, and New Year's Day.

Lest you think I'm padding the roster here, I'll mention the least-known item on that list, Cyber Monday (Dec. 2 this year), is already making headlines. Shipping giant Federal Express announced that it expects to see 22 million shipments hit its facilities on that day, and 85 million for that week, so the holiday season is already big news, at least in the business press.

Me, I don't know how much of a contribution I'll be making to that 85 million package week, but I've already been lending the holiday shopping season a hand, so to speak, so at least I'm doing my share.

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

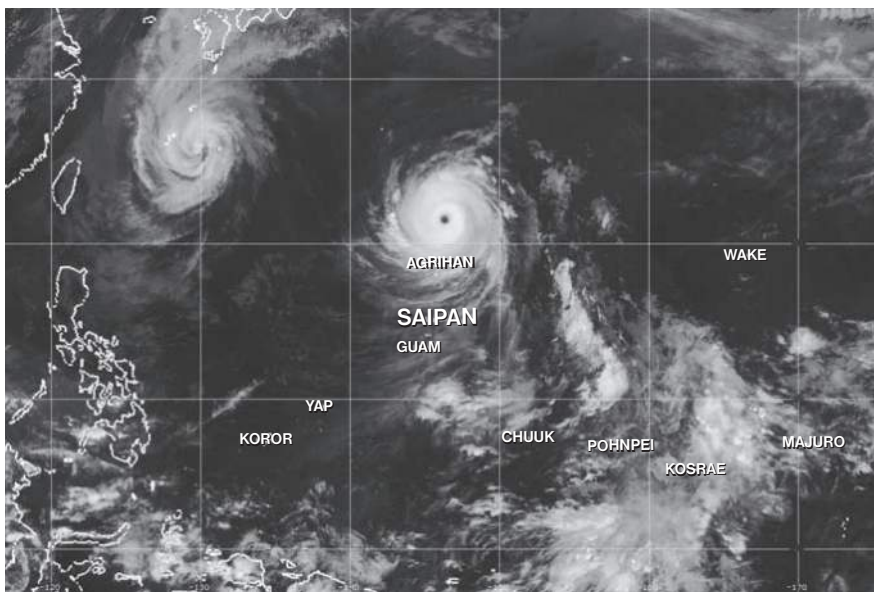
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼77
Palau	Showers	▲85	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲85	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲66	▼55
Beijing	Sunny	▲65	▼37
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲80	▼67
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼71
London	Rain	▲63	▼59
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼54
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼77
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲65	▼45
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼69
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲55	▼36
Osaka	Rain	▲72	▼62
Paris	Showers	▲64	▼55
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼46
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼59
Salem	Fog	▲70	▼41
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼51
Seoul	Sunny	▲60	▼42
Tokyo	Showers	▲71	▼65
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲57	▼37

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2013
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Typhoon Francisco (26W) Is centered northwest of the Marianas at 25N130E moving northwest at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the center north of a line from 22N130E to 23N132E. For more information on Francisco, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN33 PGTW. Super Typhoon Lekima (28W) is centered 490 miles north-northeast of Saipan at 21N147E moving west-northwest at 13 mph with maximum sustained winds of 140 mph. Heavy rain and isolated thunderstorms are found up to 100 miles from the center. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found in two rain bands southeast of the center between 17N and 19N from 146E to 151E. For more information on Super Typhoon Lekima, refer to bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW and public advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM. A surface trough that runs from the center of Super Typhoon Lekima to end between Chuuk and Pohnpei at 7N155E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms north of Chuuk between 9N and 12N from 150E to 154E. Another surface trough runs from 9N166E to 18N170E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found between 7N and 15N from 161E to 169E. Converging winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Pohnpei and Kosrae between the equator and 5N from 156E to 165E and in the Marshall Islands between 6N and 15N from 170E to the dateline.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:33 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
1:49 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
7:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet
11:44 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM
Sunday	6:11 AM	5:50 PM
Monday	6:12 AM	5:50 PM
Tuesday	6:12 AM	5:49 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	10:50 PM	11:08 AM
Saturday	11:39 PM	11:52 AM
Sunday		12:34 PM
Monday	12:28 AM	1:15 PM
Tuesday	1:16 AM	1:55 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 8, 2013

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:50am	5:40am	1, 3, 5
UA5068	8:35am	9:25am	Daily
UA5074	11:20am	12:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076	3:10pm	4:00pm	Daily
UA5078	6:55pm	7:45pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1
0Z606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
0Z604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	4:10am	8:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-KHABAROVSK (KHV)			
SYL9950	6:40pm	1:30am+1	7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
0Z606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
0Z606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:35am	9:55am	6 via GUM
UA5062/191	4:50am	9:55am	3 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	10:10pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/PR111	8:35am	4:45pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5074/PR111	11:20am	4:45pm	1, 5, 7 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
0Z604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
0Z606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
0Z606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
0Z604/745	3:30pm	10:40pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA5073	10:00am	10:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5077	5:35pm	6:25pm	Daily
UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5062	2:40am	3:15am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	10:10am	10:45am	6
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5062	3:45am	4:20am	1, 3, 5
UA5038	11:15am	11:50am	6
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL288	8:15pm	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
0Z607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
0Z603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
0Z605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
0Z605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	7:55pm	3:10am+1	4, 7
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
KHABAROVSK (KHV)-SAIPAN			
SYL9949	12:45pm	5:20pm	7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
PR110/UA5072	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
DL172/288	7:55am	12:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5079	10:55am	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:35pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
0Z704/603	11:45pm	2:20pm+1	Daily via ICN
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
0Z746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
0Z722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:45pm	8:05am+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:50pm	8:05am+1	3, 6 GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Financial and emotional injuries to CNMI retirees

Retirees are starting to realize and feel the effect of the diminution of their pension, all because of governor's active participation to inflict financial injuries and cause great harm upon all retirees and beneficiaries because he willingly agreed to the Betty Johnson settlement agreement. As a result all retirees and beneficiaries have been victimized, losing forever, unless otherwise restored, 25 percent of their pension and benefits. The irony of his act is that, as a public official, he took the oath of office and swore to protect and defend the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, the general interests of the people, including the constitutional rights of retirees. What have the retirees and beneficiaries done to the Retirement Fund and to Gov. Inos to merit such cruel and unusual financial punishment? Did retirees and beneficiaries deserve to be treated this way?

I would like to point out that all elected legislators, the governor and lieutenant governor—who all ascended into office through constitutional authority—were not coerced nor bribed to assume office. Instead, they eagerly, knowingly, independently, and voluntarily submitted themselves to the scrutiny of the electorate and the demands of the office. Each one of them publicly declared, under penalty of perjury, that they have the mental and physical capacity to assume the duties and responsibilities of their respective offices. They even bragged about their experiences and how those experiences would help them resolve the lingering fiscal and financial crisis of the Commonwealth.

While resiliency is the appropriate word to describe the character of our people during this convulsive and turbulent period, someone has to be made accountable for the cumulative destructive political decisions made throughout more than eight years of economic miseries. Gov. Inos may be currently "IT" but "it" was during his long stewardship of our government finances when our less than healthy economic conditions started getting progressively bitter. One would think that because he was directly responsible for engendering the financial solvency and stability of the funds that Gov. Inos would have the right strategy to rescue the Fund. Unfortunately and sadly, his best solution was to consciously conspire in its insolvency and subsequent demise. There should be no question in the mind of all retirees and beneficiaries that Gov. Inos aided and abetted in bringing upon the collapse of the Fund and directly violated the contractual obligation of the government to the retirees, in direct contravention of our Constitution. Gov. Inos' act was an affront to the dedicated and hardworking retirees and imposed undue and severe financial and emotional injuries to all Fund members and beneficiaries.

One only need to review how many years Eloy Inos was in complete and unabridged control of the total finances of our entire government, from being secretary of the Department of Finance, lieutenant governor and now as governor himself. Gov. Inos has roughly a cumulative period of more than 20 years in dealing with our government's finances and today, by the stroke of his signature in the Betty Johnson settlement agreement, he fully accomplished his conceited motive—to destroy and remove the entity that has been a source of financial support to retirees and their families for many years. To all retirees and beneficiaries, who do you honestly think is the real culprit responsible for diminishing and impairing your constitutionally protected pension, the messy economic performances and our likelihood of continued economic entrenchment?

Quality of leadership is generally measured by judgments and motives. Let us now take a closer review of the enactments of PL. 17-82. The 17th Legislature two years ago was hard-pressed and struggling to figure out how to keep the Retirement Fund solvent after the Inos and Fitial administration stopped remitting the government's employer contributions. Not able to find creative and imaginative ways to generate addition revenues to infuse into the Retirement Fund, the Inos/Fitial administration decided to do the opposite. 1) Enact enabling legislation allowing a certain class members of the Fund to withdraw their contributions and 2) persuaded active government employees to enroll into the U.S. Social Security program, a cop-out approach that further aggravated the financial stability and solvency of the Fund. While, at the surface it appeared as a clever way of lessening the central government's compounded liabilities, the actual net effect was grossly miscalculated and disastrously oppressive to all retirees and beneficiaries. Not to overlook or appear insensitive to the interests of current government employees, I am extremely pleased that you and your families are able to get back your deducted income from the institution that was maliciously and callously abused by the very public officials entrusted to protect it.

Finally, I appeal to all retirees and beneficiaries, while it appears that I was not able to intervene in the Betty Johnson settlement agreement to assert our constitutionally protected rights, we still have the power of our vote to seek redemption from those who caused us harm. Let us now use it collectively.

Jesus I. Taisague
Koblerville, Saipan

WRESTLING

From Page 11

Stuck in the filthy swamp of ideology, "one can well understand some Asian leaders' quiet concerns about America's attention span and focus, particularly in the context of China's rise and continuing territorial disputes.

"The contrast is striking between Obama's canceled trip to Indonesia, Brunei, Malaysia and the Philippines, and the beginning of Chinese President Xi Jinping's first Southeast Asia trip since he took office in March. In Indonesia, Xi became the first foreign leader to address that nation's parliament. In Malaysia, the Chinese leader announced a range of joint Chinese-Malaysian strategic and economic efforts."

Could Mr. "About Face" make up where Chinese President Jinping has made powerful gains among our allies in Asia? Decisive leadership could assist the islands avoid becoming just another defense outposts in the Pacific. It grants reserving use of the land of the indigenous people being reserved for constructive and productive purposes.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES

TINIAN HARBOR SEAWATER FIRE FIGHTING SYSTEM PROJECT NO. CPA-TS-001-13

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested firms for Architectural/Engineering (A/E) Design Services.

The general scope of work is for A/E design services for design of seawater fire-fighting system for the Tinian Harbor, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. These services will include an assessment of the existing conditions and design of a new seawater fire-fighting system to be installed at the Tinian Harbor including plans, specifications and estimates for the anticipated repair work and improvements.

At a minimum, the statements of professional qualification from firms should address the areas generally described below:

1. Overall A/E design experience in the Pacific area and especially in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;
2. A/E Design experience related to CPA projects;
3. Level of proficiency in performing A/E services promptly; and level of experience with seaport projects;
4. The general reputation of the firm in terms of quality of A/E work experience and services performed for seaport projects, and the firm's professional integrity and competence; and
5. Resumes of key personnel including current licenses and registrations of principal, if applicable.

Interested firms must submit one (1) original and four (4) copies each of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **4:30 p.m., Friday, November 8, 2013**.

Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Ms. MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

Date: October 4, 2013

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Make the right decision for yourself

I am writing as private citizen out of concern for those of you who are getting a windfall of cash from closing out your defined benefit account with the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund. About $43 million has been disbursed.

Any of us would be tempted to take our lump sum and spend it on a car, a long-planned family vacation, an extension to our home, or some other big ticket item we have long desired.

But that money you have withdrawn has already been saved for your retirement and is intended to see you through your retirement years. What is important is that those funds you have already put away for retirement stay in a retirement account—tempting as it may be to spend them now. If it's used up now and is not available to support you when you are older, then your lives, your families, and our community as a whole will suffer.

So, if you are an active employee of the Commonwealth government you are going to have to make some serious decisions about how you plan to live in retirement. Gone are the days that one could work for 20 years and retire with benefits near or equal your final years' wages.

Going forward, Commonwealth government employees will have a retirement system equal to those in the private sector with Social Security and a defined contribution plan with a match contribution from the government.

There are a lot of positives with this new system for our community over the long term, as this new structure is more affordable and it will allow workers to avoid "job lock" and be able to take other employment opportunity, aside from the government, without risking their retirement plan.

For those who are able to work long enough to accumulate enough Social Security credits to qualify for full retirement benefits and contribute to their defined contribution plan, things should work out fairly well. However, those that have been working 15-20 years for the Commonwealth government are most likely either going to fall short of qualifying for Social Security retirement benefits or if they do qualify, they will qualify for reduced benefits.

It is important to understand that just because you are enrolled in Social Security going forward does not guarantee that you will ever receive Social Security retirement benefits. In order to qualify for Social Security retirement benefits you need to work for 40 quarters (10 years) in the Social Security system.

If you are able to work 10 years, you will qualify to receive benefits. However, in order to receive full benefits you need to work 30 years. It is a little more complicated than this but, for simplicity sake, your retirement (Social Security) benefits are calculated by totaling up your total wages earned during your quarters covered by Social Security and dividing the total by 30 years.

To cover the shortfall, you will need to have your own personal savings. For most, this will come in the form of their current defined benefit or defined contribution account balances. Based on this, I plead with you to not spend your distributions from the defined benefit plan.

If you decide to take a distribution, you need to roll this balance over to the defined contribution plan or into your personal IRA.

Moreover, Gov. Inos recently signed PL 18-21 into law, allowing active members of the defined contribution plan to take distributions while working. Again, you will need this money in the future if you plan on retiring. If you are in need of money, please exhaust all other resources before you take a distribution from the defined contribution plan.

Lastly, you need to make sure you contribute to your retirement going forward. The government has a generous matching contribution to and for the defined contribution plan. Please take advantage of this benefit.

Our community already faces the challenge of retirees whose benefits are being cut by 25 percent. Imagine the negative impact on individuals, on families, or on our economy five or 10 years from now, when new retirees have even less because they spent their defined benefit lump sum, instead of saving it for retirement.

I urge you to make the right decision for your sake, for your family, and for the good of our community: Hold on to your retirement windfall. And I urge you to please check with a bank or with a qualified financial professional for retirement planning advice.

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan
Garapan, Saipan

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BIDS
DPW/FHWA-13-IFB-008

ISLAND WIDE ROAD MARKING AND SIGNAGE UPGRADE ROUTE 37 (CHALAN MONSIGNOR GUERRERO ROAD) PROJECT NO. CM-NH-3000(017), SAIPAN

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Island Wide Road Marking and Signage Upgrade Route 31 (Chalan Monsignor Guerrero Road), Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on or after **October 25, 2013** at Pacific Quick Print & Post, located in Middle Road, Garapan, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, is required to defray the cost of printing the package.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001.

There will be a **Pre-bid Conference** for this project on **November 13, 2013,** 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **November 27, 2013** to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547. Response to questions shall be shared with prospective bidders

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgment of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/9838 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "**DPW/FHWA-13-IFB-008**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **December 2, 2013**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **December 2, 2013** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **December 2, 2013** and must be received no later than **December 11, 2013**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **December 13, 2013**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on **December 5, 2013.**

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (**$25,000.00**) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. **Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashiers check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety requiring approval of the Attorney General must be pre-approved prior to bid submission**. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations **§70-30.3-245**. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) Under penalty of perjury, a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceed the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Gov't Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is **One Hundred Fifty (150) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the standard Specification for Construction of Roads and Bridges on Federal Highway Projects, FP-03

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

PUBLIC NOTICE

Jae Ho Hong is no longer affiliated with the following entities:

Guam: JMSH LLC, Alupang Beach Tower, Garden Villa Hotel, Holiday Resort Guam, Seoul Jung Restaurant, Mai'Ana Airport Plaza and Guam Horizon Hotel.

Rota: Rota Resort & Country Club and RGMW LLC.

Saipan: Arctic Circle Air Company.

He has no authority to bind any of the named companies.

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PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF A NEW SEAWATER FIRE PUMP AND ELECTRIC DRIVEN MOTOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-001-14

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting cost proposal for the procurement and delivery of a new Seawater Fire Pump and Electric Driven Motor for its Seaport Operation.

The location and scope of work package is available beginning October 11, 2013 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package: "Procurement and Delivery of a new Seawater Fire Pump and Electric Driven Motor-CPA-RFP-001-14." One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted before 4:30 p.m. LOCAL TIME, October 31, 2013, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Proposals submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

Over 1K expected for 2013 Las Vegas Night

Over 1,000 community members are expected to take advantage of the only night in the year when gambling is legal on Saipan when the Rotary Club of Saipan hosts its Las Vegas Night Saturday evening at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Rotary club president Laila Y. Boyer said the signature event is dubbed Las Vegas Night Spook Night this year because it happens less than a week before Halloween.

Because of this, Boyer is encouraging everyone who will attend Las Vegas Night to wear Halloween costumes in keeping with the event's theme.

"Please come, dress up in your favorite costume for prizes, and play games for a great cause! For adults, it can't get better than that," she said.

Games in store are Black Jack, Roulette, Craps, Texas Hold 'Em, and Bingo.

"It is a dollar to play most games and it is tons of fun!" said Boyer.

Prizes for the raffle are chances to win $10,000 or a brand new 2014 Toyota Yaris, $3,000, $2,000, $1,000, and $500 cash prizes.

"It's only $5 per ticket or $20 for a booklet of five tickets and you don't have to be present to win. The ticket serves as an entrance ticket as well and you have to be 21 years old or above to enter. No children please! We are also serving drinks and chasers at happy hour prices throughout the night," said Boyer.

Profits generated from the 2013 Las Vegas Night will be used for the Rotary Club's children's park project in Kagman.

"We also have awesome door prizes that you have to be there to win. We will be selling tickets at the door so we invite the public to come and support a great cause! We are building the largest family playground in Kagman, the Rotary Family Park, and ground breaking is in two weeks!"

She also thanked the main sponsors of the 2013 Las Vegas Night: Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan, Microl Toyota, DFS Galleria, Delta Air Lines, Bank of Guam, Pacifica Insurance, and *Marianas Variety*.

Las Vegas Night is the club's major fundraiser every year and raises funds for the organization's community projects.

Last year the event was held at the Saipan World Resort. It was graced by over a thousand players and spectators and generated gross proceeds of $44,000. The grand prize winner, Arnel Capati, won $8,000 after he chose the cash award over a brand new 2012 Hyundai Accent GLS. ***(Mark Rabago)***

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Altima SV	DC277798	Blue	$3,000.00
Altima S	DC105892	White	$3,000.00
~~Rouge SV~~	~~DW035~~ SOLD	~~Silver~~	~~$2,000.00~~
Frontier S 4WD	DN736303	White	$3,000.00
Murano S	DW213267	Silver	$3,000.00
Xterra S 4WD	DN810750	Gray	$3,000.00
Pathfinder S 4WD	DC676044	White	$4,000.00
Maxima SV	DC816012	Silver	$4,000.00

FORD	STOCK #	Color	Discount
Fiesta S	DM222599	White	$2,500.00
Escape S	DUD46323	Blue	$3,000.00
Escape S	DUD46324	Green	$3,000.00
F-150 XL	DFC30729	White	$3,000.00
E-150 XL Van	DDA57852	White	$3,000.00
Explorer EcoBoost	DGC88648	Red	$3,000.00
KIA	**STOCK #**	**Color**	**Discount**
~~Sportage EX~~	~~D74859~~ SOLD	~~Blue~~	~~$2,000.00~~
Sportage EX	D7485869	Blue	$2,000.00

HONDA	STOCK #	Color	Discount
Fit Sport	DC035133	Gray	$2,500.00
Fit Sport	DC054115	Black	$2,500.00
Civic LX	DH559858	Brown	$2,500.00
Civic LX	DE050760	Gray	$2,500.00
Civic SI Coupe	DH702646	Orange	$3,000.00
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CR-V LX AWD	DL021200	Brown	$3,000.00
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PORT OF SAIPAN BOAT SHED CONSTRUCTION
PROJECT NO. CPA-SS-001-13
DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the construction of a new boat shed building at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The work shall include all materials, labor and equipment necessary to achieve a finished product, including but limited to the items in this scope of work and those shown on the working drawings. The proposal package which includes the scope of work and other considerations will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building beginning September 30th, 2013.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Port of Saipan Boat Shed-Design/Built Services". One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 4:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2013, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 11, 2013 at the Port of Saipan Conference Room. Attendance at this pre-proposal conference is mandatory and only those contractors present at the pre-proposal meeting will be allowed to submit proposals. A site visit will be conducted immediately after the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.

CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ MR. JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Board Chairman/Contracting Officer

FOA presents 'The Ives Have It'

A paradox: something (such as a situation) that is made up of two opposite things and that seems impossible but is actually true or possible. That is what's in store for you when you experience the ways and means of David Ives. The Friends of the Arts comedy to open this season is composed of six one-act paradoxes.

Act 1 is "Sure Thing." What are the chances gained if you could turn back time and try again…and David Ives does just that as this scene unfolds. Two strangers meet in a café and just as the conversation seems like a sure thing, things go awry.

Act 2 is "Philadelphia" or is it? The scene is sure to make you question reality. Perhaps it is all only just a dream.

Act 3 is "Trotsky" in yet another altered state of mind. Trotsky discovers his date of death via his wife with an encyclopedia from the future. A paradox made just for Halloween.

Act 4 is "The Universal Language." It involves a scam artist who makes up the "Universal Language" and then offers to teach it to people for a rather large sum of money.

Act 5 is "Words, words, words." This is yet another eccentric view into the mind of David Ives. As three monkeys are put into an experiment to determine whether or not, if a monkey types long enough, it will eventually write a masterpiece.

Act 6 is "Dr. Fritz." This is just in time for Halloween as a wacky doctor decides to operate on a tourist.

Come and join the Friends of the Arts at the Dolphin Theater at Marianas High School this Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Oct. 25, 26, and 27. Friday and Saturday the show starts at 7pm and Sunday is at 3pm. Tickets cost $15 dollar for non-FOA members, $12 for FOA members, and $8 for students.

David Ives, born in Chicago on July 11, 1950, is a contemporary American playwright. Ives attended Northwestern University and, after some years' interval, the Yale School of Drama, where he received an MFA in playwriting. He is known for his one act plays, but also full-length plays and musicals. He also writes children's books. Ives has won numerous awards for his plays.

We promise that no crystal ball was harmed in the making of this play. ***(FOA)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

No classes in public schools today

In celebration of 25 years of public education, there will be no classes today, Oct. 25, 2013, for Kagman High School students. School operations will be back on Monday, Oct. 28, 2013. ***(PR)***

Free workshop for businesswomen

The CNMI Small Business Development Center presents a free workshop on Saipan called "Women in Business: Identifying and Meeting Market Needs." It will be presented by Denise Mendiola-Hertslet, WIB senior business counselor, and Jessica Castro, Guam SIM president, on Oct. 26, 2013, 10am to 12pm, Family Building, second floor conference room. Online registration available pisbdcn.ecenterdirect.com. Call (670) 664-3018 for pre-registration. ***(PR)***

Open auditions for possible TV sitcom

A non-profit group will be holding auditions for a new sitcom that is being developed that supposedly takes place in an ESL classroom setting. Several roles are available for those who want to become a TV actor or actress. Auditions will be held tomorrow, Oct. 26, 2013, at 1:30pm, at the ALAI (Advanced Language & Academic Institute) office on the third floor of the Marianas Business Plaza. Email riverspictures07@gmail.com for more details. ***(PR)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-14-002

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF TYPHOON RECOVERY MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials for CUC Power Division, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $80.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked *"CUC-IFB-14-002, Supply & Delivery of Typhoon Recovery Materials"*, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 14, 2013** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Marcela Tenorio, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on **October 28, 2013** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, CUC Power Division Engineer via email alfredo.palattao@cucgov.org & Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles.warren@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

/s/ ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by NMHC with HUD funds.

COMBINED NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

October 25, 2013

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Governor
Saipan, MP 96950 Tel: (670) 664-2200 or (670) 234-9447/6866

This notice shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after November 12, 2013, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Honolulu Field Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds under Title 1 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (PL 93-383), as amended, to undertake the following projects and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
Construction of the Saipan Southern High School Swim for Life Instructional Pool.	To construct a swimming pool at the school facility to train students in swimming, and the possibility of adding swimming lessons in their curriculum. The swimming pool project will also cater to the community to assist individuals who are interested in swimming lessons.	Saipan Southern High School (SSHS), Koblerville, Saipan	$250,000.00

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed projects will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation Central Office in Garapan, Saipan and may be examined or copied during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI or Austerity Holidays, from 7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group or agency disagreeing with this determination or wishing to comment on the projects may submit written comments to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 or direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan. All comments received by November 11, 2013, will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Commentors should specify which part of this Notice they are addressing.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD Honolulu Field Office that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Eloy S. Inos consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office acceptance of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development HUD Honolulu Field Office will accept objections to its release of funds and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if it is on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient has incurred cost not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of the release of funds by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures of 24 CFR Part 58 and shall be addressed to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Honolulu Field Office, 1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1400, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813. Potential objectors should contact the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS
Governor

Guam ordnance experts dispose of WWII explosive

By JESSE LEON GUERRERO
JOINT REGION MARIANAS PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PITI, Guam—Sailors from Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 Det. Marianas successfully performed a render safe procedure, or RSP, on a Navy World War II five-inch round found on Nimitz Hill in Piti, Guam, on Oct. 23.

Members of Guam Fire Department, Guam Police Department, and Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense partnered with the Navy to inform the public of the RSP operation and restricting public access to the site.

EODMU-5 identified the round as unexploded ordnance that needed to be handled properly before it could be safely transferred out of the area for disposal. On site the team disarmed the round's fuse by mechanically shearing it off. As a precaution, they created a bunker of soil and clay-filled bags that covered the round.

"I think [the RSP] speaks to the professionalism of our EOD teams that we can do this safely," said EODMU-5 officer-in-charge Lt. Dhruv Parashar. "We have experienced members who get the explosives training, have gone to school for it and have done multiple tours of deployments. We use a lot of specialized tools for the UXO. It's not as simple as hitting it because that's the most dangerous thing you can do, and we do everything remotely."

GHS/OCD public affairs officer Alyssa Benito said the RSP was just one of many examples of the strong partnership between local and federal agencies.

"GFD and GPD are here to respond and standby should anything happen," she said. "EOD is a major component in this response because they're the ones who actually determine the necessity of the actual ordnance and they see what needs to be done to ensure that it's safe for transport."

Parashar estimated that EODMU-5 Det. Marianas responds to about two calls for unexploded ordnance per week, totaling nearly 100 in a year. He encouraged the public that if they should find an unexploded ordnance, to contact emergency responders and vacate the area to ensure their safety.

"The best thing the public can do when they see ordnance, or even if they think it's ordnance, is to call 911," Parashar said.

U.S. NAVY/JESSE LEON GUERRERO

Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 5 Detachment Marianas officer-in-charge Lt. Dhruv Parashar, left, and Chief Explosive Ordnance Disposal Ryan Gilfillan look over a World War II five-inch round as they prepare to perform a render safe procedure on the round in the jungles of Turner Road, also known as Channel 10, in Nimitz Hill Oct. 23.

Rose Dance School to hold anniversary party

Rose Dance School just turned 4 years old this month and is celebrating the occasion by holding an anniversary party tomorrow night, Oct. 26, from 6pm to 10pm, at the Saipan World Resort. The entrance fee is $25.

Saturday night's event is expected to highlighted by performances featuring all kinds of ballroom dances taught at the school, including swing, cha-cha, samba, tango, and waltz.

Rose Dance School opened in 2009 to teach ballroom dancing to the local community. It is located on the second floor of the Canton Restaurant and is owned by Carol Wong Chan and Rose Chan. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB14-GOV-002

Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project – Marpi, Saipan

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lieutenant Governor Jude U. Hofschneider are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project – Marpi, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available Friday, October 11, 2013 at the Governor's Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A $100.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference/site visit for this project on Friday, October 18, 2013, 9:00AM ChST at the project site in Marpi. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 PM ChST October 25, 2013 to Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 664-2408. All responses to questions should be shared with other prospective contractors.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB14-GOV-002, Construction of the Kalabera Cave Development Project"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than November 12, 2013 and must be received no later than November 21, 2013 ChST. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 AM ChST November 22, 2013. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 10:00 AM ChST November 12, 2013.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and

b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract.

Acceptable assets are only:

1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is Two Hundred Forty (240) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) Five Hundred Dollars ($500.00) per day, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by Two Hundred Forty (240) calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM- OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP13-GOV-185

Architectural & Engineering Design Services for the Existing Municipal Solid Waste Facility

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider through the Capital Improvement Office, is soliciting sealed proposals for the Architectural and Engineering Design Services for the Existing Municipal Solid Waste Facility, Tinian MP, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with NMIAC Section 70-30.3-305.

Prior to being awarded a design contract, the firm or company must have obtained a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Board of Professional Licensing.

The Scope of Work (SOW) will be available on or after October 11, 2013 at the Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment be presented when obtaining the package. A Pre-Proposal Meeting is scheduled on at the Governor's Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan on October 23, 2013 at 9:00 a.m at the Governor's Conference Room . The project completion time for this project is 120 calendar days. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia, P.E., Project Manager at Fax no. (670) 664-2408 or via email at balajadiaelizabeth@hotmail.com no later than Monday, October 30, 2013, 4:30 p.m., local time. Responses to questions shall be shared with all prospective proposers.

Proposals shall not exceed twenty five (25) pages. Note that a firm or company that submits as a prime consultant cannot submit as a subconsultant on another proposal. However, subconsultants maybe included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification and Experience on similar projects (25%)
2. Project Approach (25%)
3. Work load and resources to accomplish the work in the required time frame (25%)
4. Past performance with the CNMI Government on similar projects (25%)
5. Fee Proposal (0%)

Proposals must be sealed and marked RFP13-GOV-185. For proposals within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, November 13, 2013. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitted an Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, November 13, 2013, local time, and maybe submitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be marked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal services of the foreign country no later than November 13, 2013 AND the proposal must be received at the Office of the Director of Procurement & Supply Lower Base Drive no later than November 22, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the firms regarding the contract requirements and technical approach and selection made there from, in order of preference, of no less than three (3) firms determined to be the most highly qualified to perform the services required.

A contract shall be negotiated with the highest qualified architect/engineer firm or company at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then additional firms maybe selected in order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed upon.

The successful proposer(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement and Supply Regulations Section NMIAC 70-30.3-245.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

Department of Corrections officer cadets visit Judiciary

Department of Corrections cadet officers led by Sgt. Jose Tenorio Castro visit the Judiciary in Susupe.
NMI JUDICIARY

Recently, 39 young men and women in training to become Department of Corrections officers, led by Sgt. Jose Tenorio Castro, visited the Judiciary in Susupe.

Their tour started with a stop at the Clerk of the Superior Court's office, including a walkthrough of the office's vast legal document record section. They then moved next door to the Recorder's Office before visiting the Hillblom Library. That visit included a discussion of the CNMI Law Revision Commission, which is housed in the library, and codifies Commonwealth laws and administrative regulations. There the group also observed the *Pacific Collection* consisting of early 20th century pictures of peoples of the Western Pacific.

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro explains the functions of both the Superior and Supreme Courts during the cadets' visit.
NMI JUDICIARY

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro welcomed the group into the Supreme Court courtroom and explained the functions of both the Superior and Supreme Courts. Afterwards, the chief justice invited the cadets to role-play prosecution and witness roles so they could experience the environment and become familiar with the course of events in the courtroom.

Last, the cadets entered Superior Court courtrooms, observing hearings in progress.

Group tours of the Judiciary can be arranged by calling the Public Information Officer at 236-9805. ***(NMI Judiciary)***

Latest edition of UOG academic journal available online

The latest edition of University of Guam's online academic journal, *Pacific Asia Inquiry: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, is now available on the UOG website at www.uog.edu/pai.

Edited by Dr. Nicholas Goetzfidt, UOG professor of Library Science and Micronesian Studies, Volume 4 of *Pacific Asia Inquiry* features themes such as "Pacific Histories, Historiography and Issues;" "Contemporary Traditions and Issues;" and "Japan and Okinawa: Issues of Militarism, Law, and Translation." The journal also includes papers that cover a variety of historical and contemporary issues and perspectives from the Pacific and Japan.

Contributing authors include David Atienza; Stephen C. Murray; Sharleen J.Q. Santos-Bamba; Holger Droessler; Nicholas J. Goetzfridt; Todd Ames; Joanna Caasi Macaraeg and Seyda Türk Smith; Megumi Chibana; Debito Arudou; and Kieran Robert Maynard.

In addition, this volume contains six book reviews including:

- *The Search for a Cause: An Anthropological Perspective on a Neurological Disease in Guam, Western Pacific* by Verena Keck;
- *Repositioning the Missionary: Rewriting the Histories of Colonialism, Native Catholicism, and Indigeneity in Guam* by Vicente M. Diaz;
- *Mary, the Devil, and Taro: Catholicism and Women's Work in a Micronesian Society* by Juliana Flinn;
- *Guåhan: A Bibliographic History* by Nicholas J. Goetzfridt;
- *The Body in Asia*, Bryan S. Turner and Zheng Yangwen, editors; and
- *Tadao Ando: Conversations with Students*, Matthew Hunter, translator and editor.

Papers for Volume 5 of the Pacific Asia Inquiry are now being accepted with a submission deadline of Feb. 1, 2014. Details are available under "Submission Procedures" at www.uog.edu/pai. ***(UOG)***

MVA appoints marketing rep in Taiwan

In a move to further increase visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands from key source markets, the Marianas Visitors Authority has announced the opening of its representative office in Taiwan.

The office, located in Taipei, will carry out trade marketing, public relations, and consumer promotions. The office will be operated by AVIAREPS Marketing Garden, which currently represents the MVA in Japan, Korea, and China.

The announcement was made at a press conference in Taipei by MVA managing director Perry Tenorio, who also attended the Taipei International Travel Fair on Oct. 18-21, 2013.

"Taiwan can become of the most important and rapidly growing markets for the Northern Marianas and represents an exciting opportunity to further diversify our visitor base," said Tenorio. "We are looking forward to developing travel partnerships to increase the number of visitors from Taiwan to our beautiful islands, particularly through the development of direct flights during the coming years."

Funding for the office comes primarily from a 5-percent increase in the hotel occupancy tax, which took place in April 2013. ***(MVA)***

Business

FDA seeks pet owner help on dangerous jerky treats

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Food and Drug Administration is trying to solve a stubborn mystery surrounding the deaths of almost 600 dogs that ate jerky treats, and officials are hoping pet owners and veterinarians can help them figure out what exactly may be causing the illnesses.

The problem appears to be tied to dog pet treats made in China, the FDA said, though investigators haven't yet found a certain cause. The FDA says it has received reports of illnesses in 3,600 dogs and 10 cats in the United States since 2007, and 580 dogs died. The pet treats were sold under a wide variety of brand names.

The complaints were sent in by pet owners, some of them unsure of the cause of their pet's illness. But many others were sent in by veterinarians who have seen repeated cases of kidney failure, gastrointestinal bleeding, and a rare kidney disorder, the FDA said.

FDA veterinarian Martine Hartogensis says the agency is now appealing to pet owners and veterinarians to send them more information on animals who may have gotten sick after eating the treats. Pets can suffer from a decreased appetite, decreased activity, vomiting and diarrhea among other symptoms within hours of eating treats sold as jerky tenders or strips made of chicken, duck, sweet potatoes or dried fruit.

"This has been one of the most mysterious and elusive issues we've had to investigate," Hartogensis said. She said the investigation has been particularly complicated because researchers haven't been able to pin down what ingredient may be causing the problem and because many of the treats and their ingredients are imported. And not much is known about animal deaths. While autopsies on humans can often determine the cause of death, pet owners usually forgo expensive autopsies on their deceased animals.

Dr. Richard Goldstein of the Animal Medical Center in New York said he has been investigating the illnesses since they appeared to begin in 2007, and he is still treating dogs that seem to suffer from the mysterious condition. He was consulted on a case just last week, he said.

In his experience, many of the cases have been small dogs who are eating a large amount of treats. He said the illnesses are rare, so he usually knows immediately when a sickness is connected to the jerky.

He said most dogs he treated were fine if they stop eating the treats. That's why it's important for dog owners to know about the problem, he said.

"The word is not out," he said. "Some vets don't even know about this."

The FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine has run more than 1,200 tests, visited pet treat manufacturing plants in China and worked with researchers, state labs and foreign governments but hasn't determined the exact cause of the illness.

Study: High-dose flu shot better protects seniors

ATLANTA (AP)—A new high-dose flu vaccine for seniors works better than the standard shot in that age group, according to a long-awaited study by the vaccine's manufacturer.

Experts say regular flu shots tend to be only about 30 to 40 percent effective in people 65 and older, who generally have weaker immune systems. Sanofi Pasteur's Fluzone High-Dose vaccine boosted that to 50 percent.

"I wouldn't call it great" said Dr. Edward Belongia of the Wisconsin-based Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation, a flu vaccine researcher who was not involved in the Sanofi study.

But any improvement is welcome, and the results could mean fewer illnesses—and, hopefully, hospitalizations and deaths—in seniors, he said.

For other ages, effectiveness can run 60 percent or higher for the regular vaccine.

The Food and Drug Administration licensed the higher-dose Sanofi vaccine in late 2009, based on a study that showed it led to higher levels of flu-fighting antibodies in seniors a month after vaccination. The new study is the first to measure how much protection it actually provides against the flu.

The study involved 32,000 seniors in the U.S. and Canada during the last two flu seasons.

Name: Luis M. Ayuyu
P.O. Box
Rota, MP
Telephone No. (670) 286-2324/532-9451

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE MATTER OF	)	**FCD GU**
THE APPOINTMENT OF	)	**CIVIL ACTION**
A.J.L.F.A	)	**NO. 13-0466R**
AS GUARDIAN OF	)	
THE ESTATE OF:	)	**NOTICE OF**
Minor Child	)	**HEARING**
By	)	
LUIS MANGLONA AYUYU	)	
Petitioner	)	

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the estate of the above-named minor child by Luis Manglona Ayuyu, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A HEARING of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Superior Court before the Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja on the 1st day of November, 2013 at 9AM or as soon as thereafter.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

IP&E
Fueling Excellence

Mariana Acquisition Corporation
IP&E Saipan

IP&E Saipan is accepting applications for the following positions:

Accountant
Qualifications: Minimum 10 years of consecutive and progressive practical experience in the application of accounting practices and a college degree in Accountancy; experience in the petroleum industry is highly desirable. Candidate must be able to: examine, analyze and interpret accounting records to prepare financial statements, give advice or audit and evaluate statements prepared by others; Develop, implement, modify and document recordkeeping and accounting systems, making use of current computer technology; Compute both local and federal taxes owed and ensuring compliance with payment, reporting and other tax requirements; Analyze business operations, trends, costs, revenues to project future revenues and expenses; Report to management regarding the finances of the business. Requires advance proficiency in computer skills, specifically with Microsoft Excel; have the ability to resolve discrepancies and work under pressure of time-sensitive tasks. Requires integrity and accuracy; must be willing to work flexible hours.

Business Support Assistant
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years of consecutive accounting experience in the application of accounting practices; knowledge and experience in JDE software systems; classify, record and summarize financial data to compile and update financial records using journals and computers; debit, credit and total accounts on computer spreadsheets using specialized accounting software; receive, record and deposit accounts receivables received. Must be highly proficiency in computer skills, specifically with Microsoft Excel; have the ability to multi-task and occasionally work under pressure and time-sensitive tasks. Requires integrity, and accuracy; must be willing to work flexible hours.

Dispatcher
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years practical experience in dispatching and effective scheduling; monitoring driver locations and delivery confirmations; prepare daily delivey schedules and related documentation; understand local roadways and hazards; excellent communication and interpersonal relations skills; ability to multi-task and work under pressure; high proficiency in computer skills, specifically Microsoft Excel. Requires attention to detail.

Terminal Operator
Qualifications: Minimum 5 years experience in petroleum pump operations; excellent safety history; excellent interpersonal relations skills; knowledge of mathematic applications; ability to detect and manage hazards. Requires solid understanding of fuels chemistry basics and ability to work flexible schedules.

Tanker Driver
Qualifications: minimum 5 years experience in hauling of fuel and/or operating heavy goods vehicles; ability to read; ability to compute basic formulas; ability to detect and manage hazards. Requires solid understanding of fuels chemistry basics and ability to work flexible schedules.

Interested individuals who meet the requirements of a position may apply at IP&E Saipan, located at the Puerto Rico Terminal Office on Industrial Drive. Applications will be accepted through Thurday, October 31, 2013.

IP&E Saipan is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CHONG'S CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Four (4) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Install , service and repair of Central Air-conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 10-year work experience required
- EPA Section 608 & R-410A Certifications required
- Maintenance Technician & Electrical Safety Course in Accordance with 29CFR 1910 Standard Certification required
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) SHEET METAL WORKER
- Fabricate and install sheet metal & fiberglass products & equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes & furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating equipment and machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications
- Minimum 10-year work experience required

One (1) HVAC/R SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Knowledgeable of HVAC-R Equipment and Parts sale
- Knowledgeable of product selection, listing of order and inventory
- Must be proficient on Computer Software such as Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and MS Word

One (1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER
- Perform duties to maintain and clean office & private residence in an orderly manner
- Perform basic household chores
- Must be responsible, reliable & efficient at all times and Police Clearance required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

POI Aviation invites qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

Accounting Manager (1)
Bachelor's degree in Financial Management/Accounting with 5 years of progressive experience in accounting. Airline industry experience preferred.

Administrative Services Officer (1)
Preferably a college graduate with 2 years experience as a Secretary or related line of work. Airline industry experience preferred.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (4)
Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Must possess current US FAA A&P license.

Aircraft Maintenance Technician (4)
Graduate of Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering program with 2 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Must possess current US FAA A&P equivalent foreign license.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic (2)
Diploma for technical / vocational course on automotive / diesel engines with minimum of 2 years experience in repair and overhaul of gas and diesel engines for automobiles and other specialized motorized equipment.

Ground Support Equipment Mechanic Supervisor (1)
Diploma from technical / vocational course on automobile gas / diesel engines with minimum 4 years experience in electrical, electronic, pneumatic, hydraulic system and gas / diesel engine maintenance. Minimum 2 years supervisory experience.

Lead Aircraft Maintenance Technician (1)
Aircraft Maintenance Engineering and/or Aeronautical Engineering graduate with 4 years experience in airframe and power plant maintenance on both narrow and wide-body aircraft. Must possess current US FAA A&P license.

Lead Aircraft Service Agent (1)
High school diploma or its equivalent with 4 years experience in aircraft exterior and interior cleaning.

Lead Passenger Service Agent (3)
High school diploma or its equivalent with 4 years experience in passenger service or related field of work.

Lead Ramp Agent (2)
High school diploma or its equivalent with 4 years experience in ramp cargo loading and unloading operations.

Load Planning Specialist (1)
Associates degree with 2 years of aircraft ramp operation experience. Must possess specific airline load planner certification.

Passenger Service Manager (1)
Associates degree with 8 years of progressive airline passenger service experience and 3 years in supervisory capacity.

DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 4, 2013
Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the POI Aviation Building on International Terminal LP, Saipan International Airport.

Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

Nation

Speaker Boehner hopeful of immigration action this year

WASHINGTON (AP)—Speaker John Boehner expressed optimism on Wednesday about House action by year's end on stalled efforts to overhaul immigration as Republicans discussed possible limited steps to deal with the contentious issue.

Boehner publicly and privately raised the possibility of a House vote although he faces strong opposition from tea partyers even more resistant to giving President Barack Obama a domestic achievement after the recent rancorous fight over the partial government shutdown.

"I still think immigration reform is an important subject that needs to be addressed. And I'm hopeful," Boehner told reporters at a Capitol Hill news conference when asked if the House can act in the remaining weeks.

The House has just five legislative weeks left though lawmakers indicated that could change.

Business groups such as the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, labor unions and religious organizations including U.S. Catholic bishops and evangelicals are pressing for immigration legislation. Many of their members plan a concerted lobbying effort on Capitol Hill next week.

Boehner

Democrats, meanwhile, maintained their pressure on the House GOP, demanding a vote on comprehensive legislation similar to the Senate-passed bill that that would provide a path to citizenship for the 11 million immigrants living here illegally and tighten border security.

"Speaker Boehner, what are you waiting for?" asked Rep. Linda Sanchez, D-Calif., at a separate news conference of senior House Democrats.

The Senate passed its bill in June with bipartisan support but the measure has languished in the House.

Most House Republicans reject a comprehensive approach and many question offering citizenship to people who broke U.S. immigration laws to be in this country. The House Judiciary Committee has moved forward with individual, single-issue immigration bills.

Although House Republican leaders say they want to solve the issue, which has become a political drag for the GOP, many rank-and-file House Republicans have shown little inclination to deal with it.

There are notable exceptions. Reps. Mike Coffman, R-Colo., and David Valadao, R-Calif., joined immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. as children who want to join the military at a Capitol Hill news conference.

Coffman and Valadao have been working with Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., and Judiciary Committee Chairman Robert Goodlatte, R-Va., on legislation that would offer citizenship to the children.

Soft-spoken teen accused of killing Mass. teacher

DANVERS, Mass. (AP)—A well-liked teacher was found slain in woods behind this quiet Massachusetts town's high school, and a 14-year-old boy who was found walking along a state highway overnight was charged with killing her.

Blood found in a second-floor school bathroom helped lead investigators to the body of Colleen Ritzer, a 24-year-old math teacher at Danvers High School who was reported missing when she didn't come home from work on Tuesday, Essex District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett said.

"She was a very, very respected, loved teacher," Blodgett said.

The suspect, Philip Chism, was arraigned on a murder charge Wednesday and ordered held without bail. The teenager, described by classmates as soft-spoken and pleasant, also did not come home from school the day before and was spotted walking along Route 1 in the neighboring town of Topsfield at about 12:30 a.m. Wednesday.

Officials didn't release a cause of death and haven't discussed a motive in the killing.

A court filing said Ritzer and Chism were known to each other from the high school, but it did not elaborate. The arrest was made based on statements by the suspect and corroborating evidence at multiple scenes, investigators said in court documents.

Ritzer's family said they are mourning the death of their "amazing, beautiful daughter and sister."

"Everyone that knew and loved Colleen knew of her passion for teaching and how she mentored each and every one of her students," the family said in a statement provided by her uncle Dale Webster.

At his arraignment in adult court in Salem, Chism's defense attorney argued for the proceeding to be closed and her client to be allowed to stay hidden because of his age. The judge denied the request. The lawyer, Denise Regan, declined to comment outside court. No statement had been released from his family by Wednesday evening.

The tall, lanky teenager had moved to Massachusetts from Tennessee before the start of the school year and was a top scorer on the school's junior varsity soccer team, said Kyle Cahill, a junior who also plays soccer. He said the team had been wondering where Chism was when he skipped a team dinner Tuesday night.

"We're all just a family. It just amazes me really," Cahill said. "He wasn't violent at all. He was really the opposite of aggressive."

Ritzer had a Twitter account where she gave homework assignments, encouraged students and described herself as a "math teacher often too excited about the topics I'm teaching."

AP
Danvers High School teacher Colleen Ritzeris seen in this undated photo provided by the family of Ritzer.

The restoration project

The U.S. Capitol dome will be covered in scaffolding for about two years beginning next month as it undergoes its first complete restoration in more than five decades. The project, budgeted at nearly $60 million, will repair more than 1,000 cracks and deficiencies in the cast-iron dome, which is about 150 years old.

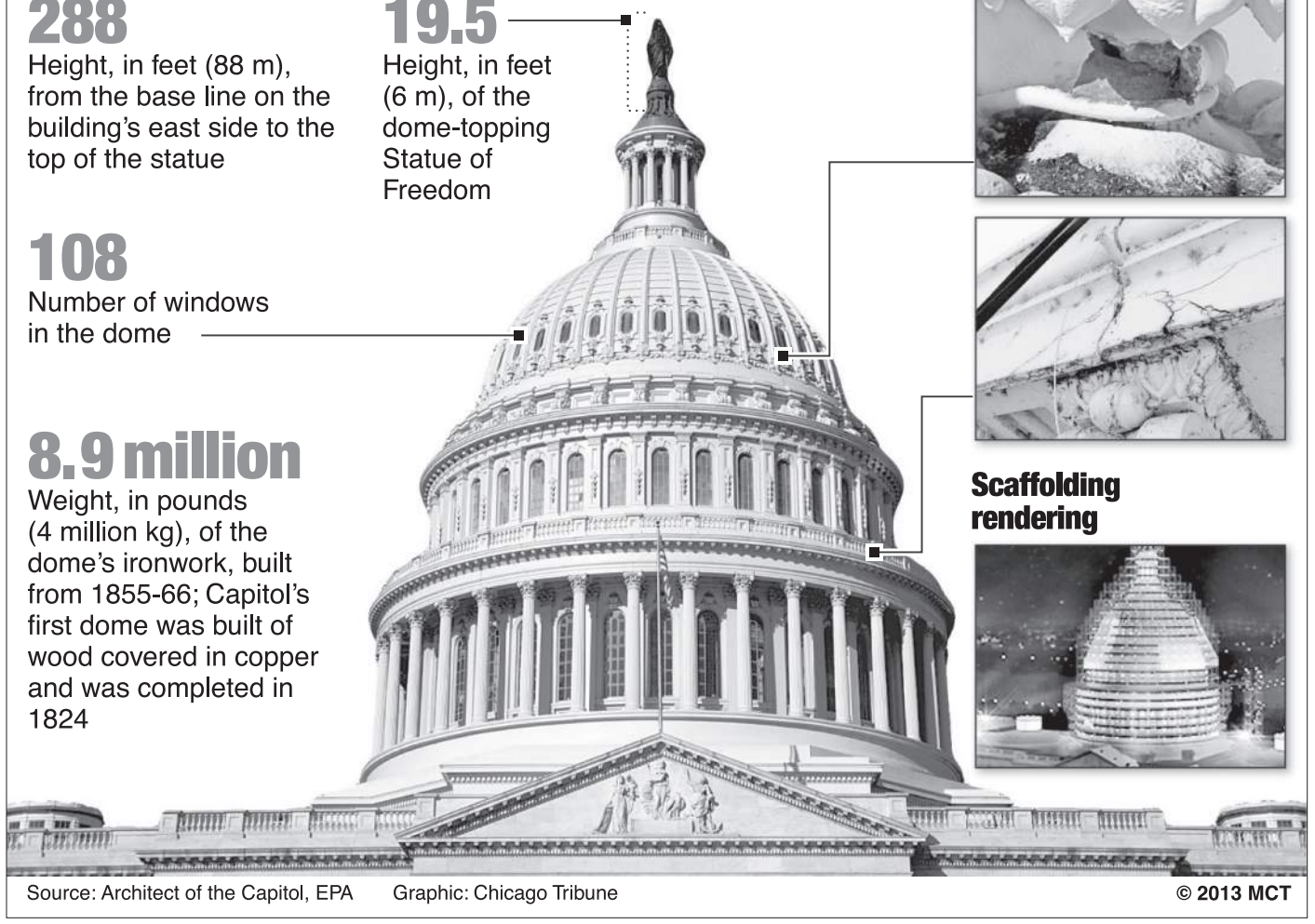
U.S. Capitol dome by the numbers

288
Height, in feet (88 m), from the base line on the building's east side to the top of the statue

19.5
Height, in feet (6 m), of the dome-topping Statue of Freedom

108
Number of windows in the dome

8.9 million
Weight, in pounds (4 million kg), of the dome's ironwork, built from 1855-66; Capitol's first dome was built of wood covered in copper and was completed in 1824



Some deterioration

Scaffolding rendering

Source: Architect of the Capitol, EPA Graphic: Chicago Tribune

© 2013 MCT

Mixed bag when US exam scores compared globally

WASHINGTON (AP)—So how do U.S. eighth-graders do in math and science when compared to their peers around the globe? Turns out it matters which state they live in, according to a study being released Thursday.

Massachusetts was the top performing state, but it still lagged behind some Asian countries in terms of its students' overall score on exams and the number of high achievers.

Mississippi, Alabama and the District of Columbia students scored below the international average on both exams, meaning their scores were on par with Kazakhstan and Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

West Virginia, Oklahoma and Tennessee students scored below the international average in math.

Jack Buckley, commissioner of the Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics, which released the study, called the results a "good-news, bad-news scenario" that probably will bolster both those who say the U.S. is doing fine in global competitiveness as well as those on the other side.

Overall, a majority of states performed above the international average in both subjects.

"Our states really are scattered across the performance levels," Buckley said in a conference call with reporters.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a statement that the study provides "powerful confirmation that demography need not be destiny when it comes to school performance—state policies matter too."

The study compared every state, the District of Columbia and Defense Department schools against 38 countries and nine additional subnational education systems. Some countries, including China, India, France and Germany, did not participate.

Researchers took eighth-grade test results in math and science from the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) to predict performance on the international comparative study test known as the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). Nine states participated directly in TIMSS.

World

Filipino and China oil firms eye accord in disputed sea

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Filipino-British company has begun talks with China's state-owned offshore oil producer for an oil- and gas-exploration deal in part of the South China Sea where Philippine and Chinese vessels were involved in a confrontation just two and a half years ago.

If a deal is struck, it would be the first between China and the Philippines involving territory in the sea that both countries claim.

Philippine Energy Secretary Jericho Petilla said Wednesday that talks between Forum Energy plc and China National Offshore Oil Corporation, or CNOOC, to develop an area of the Reed Bank were at a preliminary stage. Both China and the Philippines would have to approve a deal, but Petilla expressed hope that a commercial agreement could be reached despite the long-raging disputes over the Reed Bank, a vast offshore area claimed by both countries.

AP

Philippine President Benigno Aquino III answers questions from foreign correspondents based in Manila during a forum Wednesday Oct. 23, 2013 in Manila, Philippines.

The majority owner of London-based Forum is a Philippine energy company, Philex Petroleum Corp. The talks were being held abroad, most recently in Hong Kong, Petilla said.

The alternative to entering into a business partnership "is not to drill—probably forever." Petilla said.

President Benigno Aquino III told foreign correspondents that any such deal with China would have to conform to Philippine laws. The Reed Bank, northwest of the Philippine province of Palawan, lies clearly within the Philippines' exclusive economic zone, Aquino said.

Territorial spats between China and the Philippines over parts of the South China Sea have worsened in recent years, straining ties.

Chinese ships tried to drive away a Philippine exploration vessel at the Reed Bank in March 2011. A Philippine general deployed two air force planes but the Chinese patrol ships had left by the time the aircraft reached the contested area.

The territorial conflict has hampered oil exploration in the offshore area, Petilla said, but he added that the Philippines needed to find a way to tap its potentially huge oil and gas deposits to meet his country's growing energy demand. Natural gas deposits at a nearby offshore field called Malampaya are expected to run out in 2024, he said, adding that it takes about a decade to develop such a gas field.

China and the Philippines, along with Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam, have been contesting ownership of mostly barren islands, islets, reefs and surrounding waters in the South China Sea for years. There have been fears that the disputes could spark Asia's next major armed conflict and block free passage in the busy sea lanes, where the bulk of the oil and cargo that fuel Asia's bustling economies are transported.

Southern ozone hole slightly smaller this year

WASHINGTON (AP)—Warm air at high altitudes this September and October helped shrink the man-made ozone hole near the South Pole ever so slightly, scientists say.

The hole is an area in the atmosphere with low ozone concentrations. It is normally is at its biggest this time of year. NASA says on average it covered 8.1 million square miles this season. That's 6 percent smaller than the average since 1990.

The ozone hole is of concern because high-altitude ozone shields Earth from ultraviolet radiation.

NASA chief atmospheric scientist Paul A. Newman says the main reason for this year's result is local weather. The upper air has been almost 2 degrees warmer than normal in the globe's southernmost region. That has led to fewer polar stratospheric clouds. These clouds are where chlorine and bromine, which come from man-made products, nibble away at ozone.

"It's just like watching the Pac-Man eating cookies, where cookies are ozone. The chlorine atoms are the Pac-Man," Newman said.

James Butler, director of the global monitoring division at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Earth System Research Lab, said Wednesday that the new figures are "sort of encouraging news."

"It's not getting worse," Butler said. "That's a good sign."

Butler said it stopped getting worse around the late 1990s. But he added, "We can't say yet that it's a recovery."

WORLD BRIEFS

Activists: Syria releases 48 women detainees

BEIRUT (AP)—Activists say the Syrian government has released a total of 48 women detainees as part of a three-way prisoner exchange. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said Thursday the women were freed over the past two days. It said the figure of 48 included the 13 women whose release was previously reported. There was no immediate comment from Syrian officials. The Observatory says the release was part of a complicated hostage swap last week brokered by Qatar and the Palestinian Authority that saw Syrian rebels free nine Lebanese Shiite Muslims, while Lebanese gunmen simultaneously released two Turkish pilots.

Merkel calls Obama to complain about surveillance

BERLIN (AP)—German Chancellor Angela Merkel complained to President Barack Obama on Wednesday after learning that U.S. intelligence may have targeted her mobile phone, saying that would be "a serious breach of trust" if confirmed. For its part, the White House denied that the U.S. is listening in on Merkel's phone calls now. "The president assured the chancellor that the United States is not monitoring and will not monitor the communications of the chancellor," White House spokesman Jay Carney said. "The United States greatly values our close cooperation with Germany on a broad range of shared security challenges."

India says Pakistani troops attacked border posts

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—India on Wednesday accused Pakistani troops of firing guns and mortars on at least 50 Indian border posts overnight in disputed Kashmir, calling it the most serious cease-fire violation between the nuclear-armed neighbors in a decade. The attacks began Tuesday night in southern Kashmir after India's home minister visited the region to review security, Border Security Force spokesman Vinod Yadav said. Indian troops returned fire, but one Indian guard was killed and six were injured by a shell fired at the Arnia post in the Jammu region, he said.

Villagers in south China turn on police; 27 hurt

BEIJING (AP)—Villagers in southern China attacked policemen who were seeking a pair of suspects, injuring 27 officers, state media said Wednesday. The injured officers were hospitalized in the Yunnan provincial capital of Kunming, including one in critical condition, the Xinhua News Agency said. The violence took place after police traveled to the province's Jincheng township on Tuesday looking for two people suspected of illegal detention and intentional injury, Xinhua said. As the officers were leaving the area, about 200 residents blocked the highway in the village of Guangji, surrounding 11 officers and three police vehicles and preventing them from leaving.

Charles A. Manglona
Prudencio A. Manglona
P.O. Box 911
Rota, MP 96951
Tel 670-532-0704

PRO SE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0195E**
BERNADITA A. MANGLONA Deceased.	**NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CO-ADMINISTRATORS**
By:	
CHARLES A. MANGLONA and PRUDENCIO A. MANGLONA, JR. Petitioners.	

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES, AND CREDITORS OF BERNADITA A. MANGLONA, DECEASED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Charles A. Manglona and Prudencio A. Manglona Jr. have filed with the Clerk of Court a Petition for Appointment of Co-Administrators for the Estate of Bernadita A. Manglona. The hearing on the Petition is set for 9:00 a.m. on December 20, 2013 at the Rota Court House, Sinapalo, Rota, Northern Mariana Islands.

For future particulars, please refer to the petition on file herein or contact Charles A. Manglona or Prudencio A. Manglona Jr. at (670) 532-0704 or (670) 285-4778.

Creditors of the Decedent or of this estate are hereby notified that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court for the Superior Court within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or claims will be forever barred.

Dated this 23rd day of October, 2013.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PSS HEAD START PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council
AGENDA

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a Regular Meeting on Wednesday, October 30, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., Tanapag Head Start Resource Center, Tanapag, Saipan.

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda
5. Adoption of Minutes of August 23, 2013

II. Public Comments

III. Communication
1. From the State Board of Education
2. From the Office of Head Start

IV. Monthly Reports
1. Director
2. Managers
3. Finance Director
4. HPC Standing Committees
5. Center Representatives

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

VII. Miscellaneous Matters

VIII. Executive Session[1]

IX. Next Meeting

X. Adjournment

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Mrs. Candace Q. Celis at (670) 664-3761 or email address at candace.celis@cnmipss.org, several days notice is required.

/s/ Antonio Mesngon
Chairperson

[1]Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Council may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

DELTA MANAGEMENT CORPORATION-SAIPAN

Has an opening for Cashiers and Pump Attendants

We are looking for energetic people who are friendly, smiling, dependable, and desires to be a team player to work as Customer Service Representatives.

Successful candidates must be able to demonstrate effective:

- People skills.
- Communication skills.
- English and Math Skills.
- Reliable transportation is required. Must be punctual
- Must be willing to learn new skills & follow instructions
- Must be able to work a flexible schedule; including Sundays and Holidays.
- Sales or Customer Service background helpful
- A High School Diploma or GED required.
- On island references & police clearance required

Applications are available @ Shell Highway Express Gualo Rai (beside First Hawaiian Bank)

Delta Management is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Off The Wall

Groom who halted own wedding with bomb hoax jailed

LONDON (AP)—A forgetful British bridegroom who made a hoax bomb threat rather than admit he'd neglected to book the venue for his wedding was sentenced Tuesday to a year in jail.

Neil McArdle called Liverpool's St. George's Hall from a phone booth on his scheduled wedding day in April, claiming a bomb was due to go off in 45 minutes.

His fiancee, Amy Williams, was left standing in the street in her wedding gown while the building was evacuated.

McArdle, 36, was arrested the same day and admitted that he made the call because he had forgotten to fill out the paperwork for the wedding.

"He did say several times how embarrassed and ashamed he was and how sorry he was," said prosecutor Derek Jones.

A judge at Liverpool Crown Court in northwest England sentenced McArdle to 12 months in jail.

Judge Norman Wright said that McArdle had frightened staff at the venue with his hoax -which came days after the Boston marathon bombings—and let down his fiancee.

"She was getting ready, expecting you were going to be man and wife and a very solemn public event in her life and you knew that was not going to take place," the judge said.

AP

Neil McArdle arrives at Liverpool Crown Court Tuesday Oct. 22, 2013.

UK town Stilton told it can't make stilton cheese

LONDON (AP)—They make fine cheese in the English village of Stilton. Just don't call it stilton.

British authorities said Wednesday that a local pub can't market its blue-veined cheese as stilton because that name is protected by European Union legislation.

The Bell Inn has been forced to sell its cheese as "Bells Blue" rather than stilton.

The EU rules, based on British government guidelines, say the name can only apply to cheese from the English counties of Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, where it has long been made.

Stilton lies outside that area, but became renowned for selling the sharp-tasting cheese in the 18th century. It gave its name to the product, but historians are divided about whether it was traditionally made there.

A local cheese company asked the government to amend the Protected Designation of Origin rules to include Stilton. But the food ministry said it could only consider an application from the pub, because it was the maker of the cheese.

Hawaii surfer throws punches to evade shark attack in Kauai

LIHUE, Hawaii (AP)—A 25-year-old Hawaii surfer and former boxer went toe-to-fin with a shark off Kauai and survived.

Jeff Horton was surfing Sunday morning with about 10 others near Kilauea when someone spotted a fin in the water, The Garden Island reported.

Twenty minutes later, Horton was sitting on his surfboard with his legs dangling in the water when he spotted a dark shape approaching from the left. He thought it was a stingray—dark on top, white on the bottom.

"It came flying straight toward me," he said.

He pulled his left leg out of the water and the shark got a mouth full of surfboard.

The impact knocked Horton off the board. He rolled onto the shark and grabbed a fin.

On top of the shark, holding on with one hand, he began punching as hard as he could with his other fist. He estimated he landed eight blows.

"I finally got one nice punch into the eye," Horton said. "I put some really good hits on it, for sure."

When his knuckled jammed into the shark's eye, the shark spit out the board and retreated.

Horton scrambled onto his board. With another surfer, he caught a wave and paddled toward shore.

The shark briefly followed but did not attack again, he said.

After they reached shore, a tourist gave him $50 and told him to buy a bottle. Horton's only injuries were scratches from the shark's rough skin.

The 7-foot board, however, was left with a semi-circle imprint of the shark's jaws.

It will not go back in the water.

"I'm going to put it up on my wall," Horton said.

He surfed again Monday at another beach.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

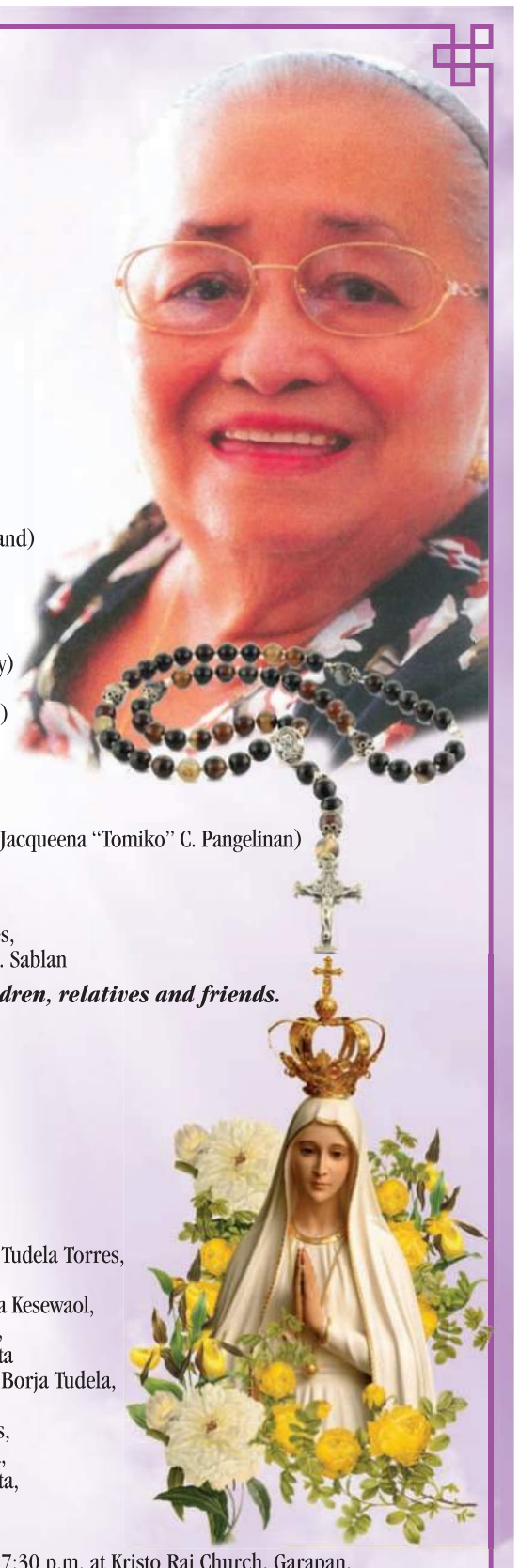
In Celebration of Her New Life

†ESCOLASTICA BORJA TUDELA CABRERA

Lovingly known as

"Esco/Tan Esco-Nan Atica" or "Mama"

of Capitol Hill, Saipan was Born to life on February 10, 1930
and was called to her eternal rest on October 21, 2013 at the age of 83.



Her Memories Will Forever Live In The Hearts Of Her:

Children, Spouses and Grandchildren:

Linda T. Cabrera (Katrina/Froilan Jr.)
Isidoro T./Susana C. Cabrera (Isidoro Jr./Kina, Shani/Carl, Antonette Esco/Roland)
Daria C./David M. Cing (Gregory/Eunmi, Grace/Gerard, Vincent/Jerra)
Millan C./Elroy Hill (Myrna/Jose, Sharon/Grafton, Daryl/Anniesha, Eloy/Maria, Esco/Lawrence)
Oliva C./Thomas M. Deleon Guerrero (Jolene/Jay, Doronila, Brent)
Olinka C./Ghazanfar Chauddrey (Joshua T. Cabrera/Carmen, Shams C. Chauddrey)
Noe T. Cabrera/Carmen
Anthony T. Cabrera/Rizza Enriquez (Bridget/Ray, Jermaine/Frank, Anthony Jr.)
Gloria C. Reyes (Derek, Kaleina, Edward Jr.)
Rita T. Cabrera (Victoria Ann/Keoni)
Eleonita C. Camacho (Christopher/Dramina, Ivanka/Mike, Johnny, Milianna)
Eloy T. Cabrera
Carmen C. Pangelinan (Brenna Iyangeline T. Cabrera/Ramon G. Villagomez II, Jacqueena "Tomiko" C. Pangelinan)
and Additionally survived by 41 Great-Grandchildren

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws:
Jose Borja Tudela/Flor, Livia Tudela Carothers (Kentucky), Carmen Tudela Flores, Dr. Calistro Camacho Cabrera, Rosario S. Palacios, Victoria F. Sablan, Antonia B. Sablan

She will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, godchildren, relatives and friends.

In Her New Life, She Now Joins Her:

Husband: †Gregorio Camacho Cabrera
Father: †Vicente Ramirez Tudela
Mother: †Rita Diaz Borja Tudela
Father-In-Law: †Ramon Taisague Cabrera
Mother-In-Law: †Consolacion Camacho Cabrera
Granddaughters: †Yonalyn T. Cabrera, †Verena Marie T. Cabrera
Son-In-Laws: †Raymond Sablan Camacho, †Estevan I. Kileleman, †Joaquin "Mitch" I. Pangelinan
Sisters: †Dolores Tudela Camacho, †Josepha Tudela Sablan, †Ana Tudela Torres, †Rosario Borja Tudela, †Remedio Borja Tudela
Sisters-In-Law: †Theresa T. Tudela, †Maria P. Tudela, †Julia Torre, †Roberta Kesewaol, †Matilde S. Tudela, †Carmen LG. Cabrera, †Maria C. Seman, †Remedios S. Cabrera, †Lucia C. Cabrera, †Carmen C. Acosta
Brothers: †Isidoro Borja Tudela, †Francisco Borja Tudela, †Manuel Borja Tudela, †Torcuato Borja Tudela
Brothers-In-Law: †Sebastian T. Camacho, †Oswald C. Sablan, †Carlos Torres, †Leslie Carothers, †Agustin B. Flores, †Antonio C. Cabrera, †Joaquin M. Seman, †Jose C. Cabrera, †Francisco N. Acosta, †Nicolas Palacios, †Vicente S. Sablan, †Mariano S. Sablan

Daily Mass of Intentions is offered at 6:00 a.m. and Holy Rosary is said at 7:30 p.m. at Kristo Rai Church, Garapan.

Funeral Service is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2013. Public viewing will be held at 8:30 a.m. and the Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral. Interment Service will follow at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

Un Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Thank You for your thoughts and prayers.

Children and Families of the Late †Gregorio C. & †Escolastica T. Cabrera

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Thief returns Pa. boy's giant 100-pound pumpkin

YORK, Pa. (AP)—A thief has returned a 100-pound pumpkin that a central Pennsylvania boy won by correctly guessing its weight—along with a note apologizing for the theft. Nine-year-old Jaiden Newcomer of York won the pumpkin at an Oktoberfest celebration in Windsor Township. He had displayed the giant pumpkin on his family's porch until it was stolen last week. But the York Dispatch reports the pumpkin was back on the family's porch Sunday evening after it returned from a weekend trip. The thief also left a note saying: "I'm really sorry about taking your pumpkin, it was wrong of me, you earned the pumpkin, I didn't think my actions through nor realize who they were affecting. Sincerest apologies."

Man owns $10 silver certificate valued at $500,000

ROYERSFORD, Pa. (AP)—A suburban Philadelphia man has perhaps the most valuable ten-spot you'll ever see. Thirty-nine-year-old Billy Baeder, of Royersford, owns a 1933 $10 silver certificate that an auctioneer says is worth at least a half-million dollars. The bill bears an unusual inscription, "Payable in silver coin to bearer on demand," and has the serial number "A00000001A." It is perhaps the most valuable bill printed since 1929, when bills were shrunk to their current size. Baeder told Philly.com that his late father, also a collector, bought the bill two dozen years ago for about the price of a compact car. Baeder says he's already turned down a $300,000 offer.

6-foot gator makes appearance at Fla. Wal-Mart

APOPKA, Fla. (AP)—A 6-foot alligator made an unwelcome appearance at the front door of a central Florida Wal-Mart. The incident happened Sunday morning in Apopka, outside Orlando. The gator stopped in the entryway, causing the automatic doors to open and close until employees locked them. Orlando television station WKMG reports Apopka police officers tried to lure the gator away as customers gathered to watch and take pictures. The gator took off toward the nearby woods. Officers searched the area but couldn't find it. No one was injured.

Sience & Technology

Facebook works to warn users about violent content

LONDON (AP)—Facebook announced Tuesday it was working on new ways to keep users from stumbling across gruesome content on its website following an outcry over the discovery of beheading videos there.

The controversy—which has drawn critical comment from British Prime Minister David Cameron—illustrates the difficulty of setting a universal standard across the social network used by 1 billion people. Facing sharp criticism, Facebook Inc. issued a statement clarifying that violent videos were only allowed if they were presented as news or held up as atrocities to be condemned.

"If they were being celebrated, or the actions in them encouraged, our approach would be different," the company said in a statement. "However, since some people object to graphic video of this nature, we are working to give people additional control over the content they see. This may include warning them in advance that the image they are about to see contains graphic content."

Facebook banned beheading videos in May but recently lifted the prohibition—a development flagged by the BBC on Monday. A few groups have since condemned the social network for potentially exposing users to the violent content.

Cameron, whose right-leaning government has unveiled several initiatives to censor objectionable content online, said Tuesday allowing the beheading videos back on Facebook was "irresponsible."

Facebook's administrators face constant pressure from interest groups trying to impose their own forms of censorship or fighting to lift restrictions they see as oppressive. Women's rights groups want the company to crack down on misogynistic content; others have ridiculed Facebook's ban on the depiction of female breasts. Some believers have urged the site ban what they see as blasphemous content, while others decry what they claim is Facebook's censorship of pages critical of one religion or the other.

Violent news content poses particularly thorny questions for a website that allows children as young as 13 to join. Should photos of heroic rescuers working during the Boston marathon bombings be banned because some people object to the sight of gore? While images of torture and abuse helped fuel the rage of the Arab pro-democracy demonstrators, should they have been banned for being too bloody?

Prepare yourself for the end of Windows XP updates next year

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I'm surprised that I haven't seen anything in your column about the end of Microsoft support for Windows XP next April. I was warned of dire consequences. Is this a big deal?—Carroll Hillesland, Plymouth, Minn.

ANSWER: Potentially. The loss of Microsoft support means there won't be any more security updates for Windows XP, now 12 years old, so any new hacking attacks developed against it won't be blocked.

This vulnerability could affect more than just owners of XP computers. It's conceivable that someone could exploit a newly found XP vulnerability, take over thousands of existing XP PCs, and put them in botnets, which are groups of compromised PCs used to attack websites or send spam.

That may sound a little farfetched, but it really isn't, because experts say there are still about 500 million Windows XP computers being used, or about one-third of world's existing PCs. That's despite XP being four generations old, having been succeeded by Windows Vista, Windows 7 and Windows 8.

You can mitigate this security risk by getting a newer Web browser. Security experts recommend Google Chrome (see http://tinyurl.com/bqgtntg) or Mozilla Firefox (see hhttp://tinyurl.com/plmrs8y). In addition, antivirus programs for XP will still be available, but it will be more important than ever to keep that software up-to-date.

Rather than run these risks, you should consider replacing Windows XP. I doubt your PC can handle an operating system upgrade, so you'll need a new one. I suggest a $350 to $400 Windows 7 laptop.

Q: I was disappointed that the Windows Movie Maker program you recommended last week won't work on Windows Vista, which I have. Are there any other options?—Kevin Amundsen, Centerville, Minn.

A: There are. Microsoft makes four versions of the free Movie Maker program for Windows 7 and 8, Windows Vista and Windows XP. Find the one you need on Microsoft's website, at http://tinyurl.com/mnabm7p.

Q: My husband took video on our Android smartphone, but the image is sideways when viewed on a PC screen. Is there a way to rotate it?—Alan and Judy Jameson, Ponte Vedra, Fla.

A: Download the free Windows Movie Maker program described in the previous answer. After opening the program, click the blue icon in the upper left corner to open the video file you want to adjust. Click "new project," and then, on the right side of the screen, "click here to browse for videos or photos." When you've loaded your video, use the control in the "Home" tab of the toolbar to rotate the image 90 degrees right or left. Store the adjusted video, and you'll have a permanent upright copy.

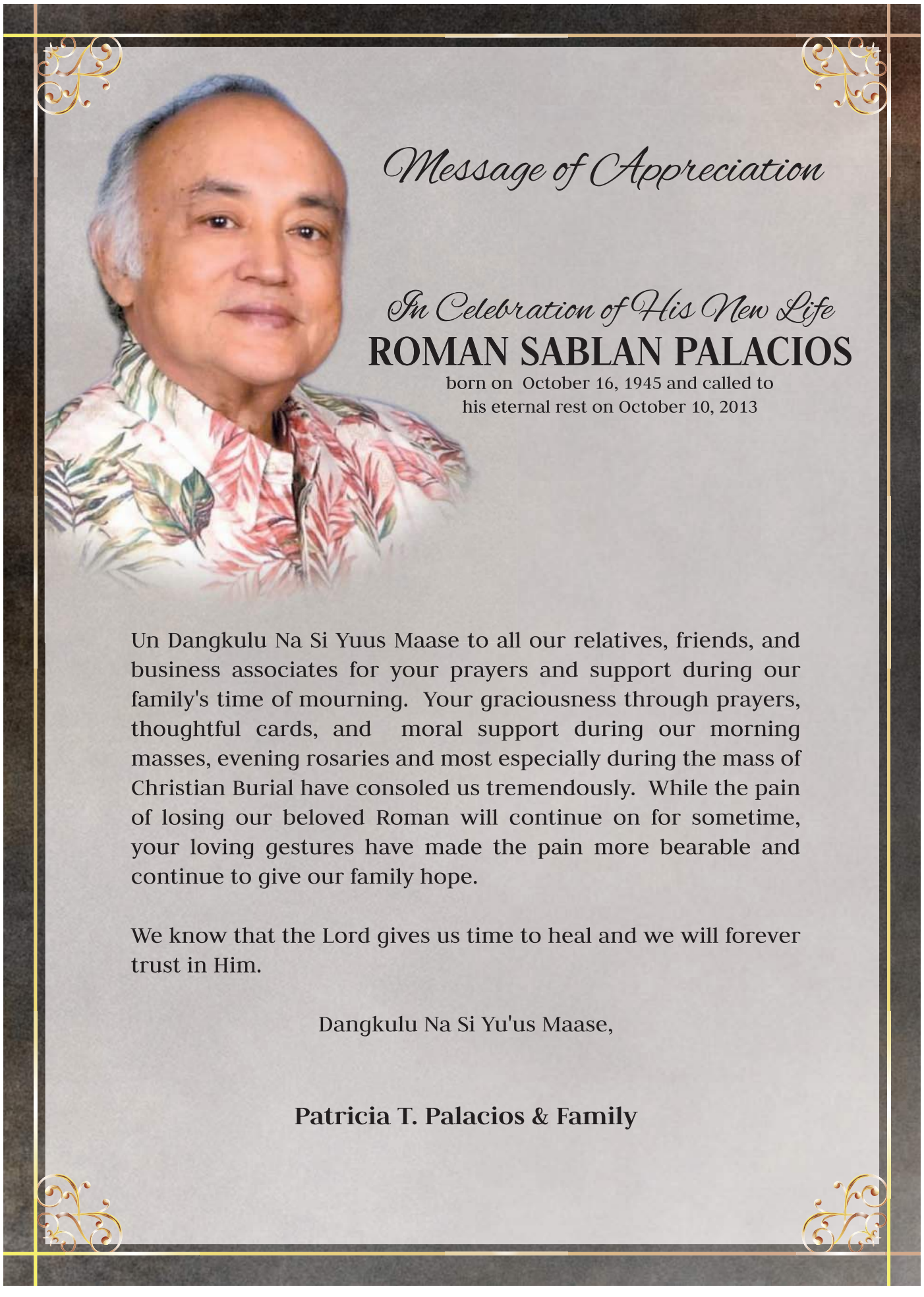
TECH BYTES

Internet address system expands with 4 suffixes

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The oversight agency for Internet addresses says it has added four domain name suffixes- the first of hundreds expected in the coming years in the online addressing system's largest expansion ever. The first four are all in foreign languages to reflect a growing international population that still has to enter Latin characters for many websites. They represent Chinese for "game," Arabic for "network" and Cyrillic for "online" and "site." People and businesses should be able to start registering names ending on those suffixes soon. The announcement Wednesday reflects the addition of those suffixes into the master database. There are currently more than 300 suffixes, mostly codes assigned for specific countries.

Samsung brings smaller version of S4 to US

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Samsung is making a smaller version of its flagship Galaxy S4 phone available in the United States next month. The screen is 4.3 inches diagonally, compared with 5 inches for the regular S4. Nonetheless, the Mini version is still larger than the latest, 4-inch iPhones. Phone companies have been making their flagship devices in multiple sizes to appeal to a broad range of consumers. Some may prefer a smaller device that fits nicely in a pocket, while others want the larger text that comes with the bigger screen.


Message of Appreciation
In Celebration of His New Life
ROMAN SABLAN PALACIOS
born on October 16, 1945 and called to
his eternal rest on October 10, 2013
Un Dangkulu Na Si Yuus Maase to all our relatives, friends, and business associates for your prayers and support during our family's time of mourning. Your graciousness through prayers, thoughtful cards, and moral support during our morning masses, evening rosaries and most especially during the mass of Christian Burial have consoled us tremendously. While the pain of losing our beloved Roman will continue on for sometime, your loving gestures have made the pain more bearable and continue to give our family hope.
We know that the Lord gives us time to heal and we will forever trust in Him.
Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Maase,
Patricia T. Palacios & Family

Life & Style

3-month-old Prince George is christened in London

LONDON (AP)—Dressed in a lace and satin gown designed in the 1840s, Britain's 3-month-old future monarch, Prince George, was christened Wednesday with water from the River Jordan at a rare gathering of four generations of the royal family.

The occasion had historic overtones: the presence of Britain's 87-year-old monarch and three future kings, Princes Charles, William and, of course, little George.

Queen Elizabeth II, usually the center of attention, quietly ceded the spotlight to her rosy-cheeked great-grandson, who seemed to wave at her when he arrived—an illusion created by his father, Prince William, playfully moving the infant's arm.

The private affair at the Chapel Royal at St. James's Palace was also attended by Prince Charles, next in line to the throne, and the queen's 92-year-old husband, Prince Philip, who has shown remarkable stamina since returning to the public eye after a two-month convalescence following serious abdominal surgery.

All told, it was an exceptional day for a monarchy that seems to be basking in public affection since the 2011 wedding of William and Kate Middleton and the maturing of Prince Harry, who appears to have put his playboy days behind him.

George, who was born on July 22, wore a replica of a christening gown made with exquisite antique lace for Queen Victoria's eldest daughter, and first used in 1841.

When William was christened in 1982, he wore the original gown—by then well over a century old—but the garment has become so fragile that a replica was made.

The infant, who will head the Church of England when he becomes king, was christened with water from the River Jordan by Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby. The silver baptismal font—known as the Lily Font—dates to 1840 when it was commissioned by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert for their first child's birth, and has been used for every royal christening since.

As trumpets blared, baby George arrived at the chapel in his father's arms with his mother by their side.

Kate, smiling broadly on her way into the chapel, wore a cream-colored Alexander McQueen dress and hat by milliner Jane Taylor, with her long hair brushed to the side. William wore his customary dark suit and tie as he proudly carried their first child.

Kate's parents, Michael and Carole Middleton, and her sister, Pippa, and brother, James, were also at the ceremony, where Pippa Middleton read from the Gospel of St. Luke and Prince Harry from the Gospel of St. John.

The chapel has a strong connection to William's mother, the late Princess Diana, whose coffin was laid before the chapel's altar for her family to pay their last respects in private before her 1997 funeral.

William and Kate chose seven godparents, among them William's cousin, Zara Phillips, daughter of Princess Anne and a close friend of the couple.

The others include Oliver Baker, a friend from William and Kate's days at St. Andrews University; Emilia Jardine-Paterson, who went to the exclusive Marlborough College high school with Kate; Hugh Grosvenor, the son of the Duke of Westminster; Jamie Lowther-Pinkerton, a former private secretary to the couple; Julia Samuel, a close friend of Princess Diana, and William van Cutsem, a childhood friend of William's.

AP

Britain's Prince William, Kate Duchess of Cambridge with their son Prince George arrive at Chapel Royal in St James's Palace in London, for the christening of the three month-old Prince George, Wednesday Oct. 23, 2013.

Palace officials said water from the River Jordan—where Christians believe Jesus Christ was baptized—was used for the christening.

In the West Bank, hours before the ceremony in London, busloads of Russian tourists descended on Qasr el-Yahud to immerse themselves in the river. The site, five miles (eight kilometers) east of Jericho, is considered Christianity's third-holiest site, after Bethlehem and Jerusalem.

The river's waters have often been used to make the sign of the cross on the heads of royal infants.

Some royal watchers camped outside the palace for more than 24 hours to obtain a good vantage point to watch the guests arrive, but the ceremony was private.

Afterward, Charles and his wife, Camilla, hosted a tea for the royal party at their Clarence House residence, where desserts included a "christening cake" with a tier taken from William and Kate's wedding cake.

The couple hired photographer Jason Bell to take official pictures, which are expected to include a historic multigenerational photograph of the queen with the three future kings—an image that will echo an 1894 picture of Queen Victoria with three future monarchs.

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Sat.(130 420) 720 1005
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Mon.(420 PM) 720 PM

CARRIE [CC,DV] (R)
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Oswald wedding ring among JFK items up for auction

AP

In this Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2013 photo Lee Harvey Oswald's wedding ring, which he left at his wife's, Marina Oswald, bedside the morning of the assassination of President John Fitzgerald Kennedy, is part of a themed JFK memorabilia auction "Camelot: Fifty Years After Dallas" at the Omni Parker House hotel in Boston.

DALLAS (AP)—On the morning of Nov. 22, 1963, Lee Harvey Oswald left his wedding ring in a cup on the dresser and left $170 in one of its drawers before he headed for work at the Texas School Book Depository.

The gold band that belonged to the man who assassinated President John F. Kennedy later that day is among nearly 300 items linked to the former president that go up for auction Thursday in Boston.

Bobby Livingston, an executive vice president with the New Hampshire-based auction house, RR Auction, described the ring, which has a tiny hammer and sickle engraved on the inside of the band, as a "very powerful, significant piece of evidence."

"It gives you such insight into the mind of Lee Harvey Oswald," said Livingston, who added that the ring could bring $100,000 or more.

It was relatively recently that the seller, Oswald's widow, Marina Oswald Porter, recovered the ring, which apparently sat forgotten for decades in the files of a Fort Worth lawyer who once did work for her.

With the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's assassination in downtown Dallas coming up in November, the auction house has gathered items ranging from Kennedy's rosary beads and clothing items to Oswald's U.S. Marine Corps rifle score book to a hat worn by Jack Ruby, the nightclub owner who killed Oswald two days after Kennedy's assassination.

Accompanying the ring is a five-page handwritten letter dated May 5, 2013, in which Porter writes: "At this time of my life I don't wish to have Lee's ring in my possession because symbolically I want to let go of my past that is connecting with Nov. 22, 1963."

At her request, the auction house is not releasing the full contents of the letter, in which Porter documents the history of the ring, from its purchase in the Soviet city of Minsk, Belarus, before their April, 30, 1961, wedding, to how it was left on the dresser at her friend Ruth Paine's home, where she and their children were living when Kennedy was killed. Oswald, who lived during the week in a rooming house near downtown Dallas, usually only visited on the weekend.

The ring took a circuitous route from the dresser to being offered at auction. In 2004, it was discovered in the files of a Fort Worth lawyer who once did work for Porter. It was in an envelope marked "Treasury Department Secret Service" with a receipt stating that Paine gave it to the Secret Service on Dec. 2, 1963.

A July 2012 letter from the Fort Worth law firm of Brackett & Ellis to Porter says the ring had apparently been in lawyer Forrest Markward's possession since 1964.

Luke Ellis, a partner at the firm, said when the ring was discovered, the retired Markward couldn't recall exactly how it came into his possession. Markward has since died.

Also up for auction Thursday are a white Lincoln Continental that the president and first lady rode in hours before his death and the sixth-floor window believed to have served as Oswald's sniper perch, which the building's owner removed in the weeks after the attack.

HK police: 2nd extortion try on 'Transformers' set

HONG KONG (AP)—Police are investigating a second reported extortion attempt at the Hong Kong film set of the latest "Transformers" movie, authorities say.

A government statement received overnight said a production company crew member was setting up on the roof of a building in Kowloon on Tuesday when four men "intimidated her and asked for money."

She called police, who arrested a 35-year-old man. He's being held pending further inquiries. The three others are still wanted. The case has been classified as blackmail and a police anti-triad unit is investigating.

Triads are Chinese organized crime gangs.

Police arrested two brothers last week after director Michael Bay was assaulted at another filming location. They allegedly demanded 100,000 Hong Kong dollars ($13,000).

"Transformers 4: Age of Extinction" is set for release in June 2014. It's partly set in Hong Kong, where filming involving stars including Mark Wahlberg has attracted attention.

Non-violent attempts at extortion involving location filming have been an occasional problem for Hollywood over the years. They usually involve residents disrupting filming by making noise or other means in an effort to prompt a payoff. In recent years, studios have been more diligent with compensation to residents in neighborhoods where films are shot.

Clint Eastwood's wife, Dina, files for divorce

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Clint Eastwood's second wife is ending their marriage.

Dina Eastwood cites irreconcilable differences in divorce papers filed Tuesday in Monterey County, Calif. The 48-year-old journalist and reality TV star is seeking spousal support and full physical custody of the couple's 16-year-old daughter.

Dina Eastwood filed for legal separation from the Oscar winner last month.

The Eastwoods have been married since March 1996 and lived in Carmel. They met when she was assigned to interview the 83-year-old actor for her TV news station.

Clint Eastwood was previously married to Maggie Johnson from 1953 to 1984.

George Clooney's 'Monuments Men' pushed to 2014

NEW YORK (AP)—George Clooney's World War II drama "The Monuments Men" is being pushed to 2014 and out of the fall awards season.

The movie will now be released in the first quarter of next year, instead of its planned release date of Dec. 18, a spokesman for Sony Pictures said Wednesday. "Monuments Men," which Clooney directed, co-wrote and stars in, had been expected to be among the top Oscar contenders.

The film could still compete for awards next year, but the early-in-the-year positioning suggests Sony doesn't expect it to. Movies released early in the year—much less sought-after territory than the lucrative holiday movie-going season—rarely garner any awards interest.

Sony said the film is being delayed so Clooney can finish the film's extensive visual effects.

"The Monuments Men," which also stars Matt Damon and Bill Murray, is about a World War II platoon whose mission is to rescue artworks from the Nazis. Based on a true story, the film is adapted from Robert Edsel's book "The Monuments Men: Allie Heroes, Nazi Thieves and the Greatest Treasure Hunt in History."

Reportedly made for $65 million, Clooney has conceived of "The Monuments Men" as a popular period drama tinged with comedy in the mold of "The Great Escape." While an early 2014 release takes the film out of the awards hunt, it could find more room at a less crowded box office.

"The Monuments Men" is only the latest film to shift out of the fall movie-going season. Previously pushed into 2014 were "Foxcatcher," "Grace of Monaco" and "The Immigrant."

The Los Angeles Times first reported the release date change.

Tom Hardy to play Elton John in biopic

NEW YORK (AP)—Tom Hardy will play Elton John in a biopic titled "Rocketman."

Focus Features announced Hardy's casting as the iconic piano man on Wednesday. The film is planned to begin shooting late next year.

The 36-year-old British actor is well respected for his wide-ranging talent, but his brawny, tattooed frame makes him an unconventional choice. Hardy is most famous for playing the terrorist Bane in "The Dark Knight Rises." He has showcased a muscled masculinity in films like "Warrior," "Lawless" and "Bronson."

Hardy

"Rocketman" is being made with the cooperation of the 66-year-old John, who's an executive producer on the film.

Help for the cooking-phobic

NEW YORK (AP)—Jessica Seinfeld's first two cookbooks "Deceptively Delicious" and "Double Delicious" showed parents how to sneak vegetables into their kids' meals.

She may have helped some families, but she realized there still were plenty who wouldn't try her recipes—or any recipes—because of their fear of the kitchen.

That made her think: "'You know, I haven't solved this problem,' which is the fear of going into the kitchen and turning on the stove or shopping for the right ingredients ... I like to solve problems, so I said, `I'm going to look into this.'"

The result is "The Can't Cook Book: Recipes for the Absolutely Terrified" (Atria Books).

AP: A lot of people who don't cook regularly will tackle a really ambitious recipe with a lot of ingredients or prep and then get overwhelmed. Are your recipes easy to follow?

Seinfeld: I created these with just a few ingredients because I don't like to cook with a lot of ingredients and for beginners you really get tripped up the more steps you add in and the more flavors you add in. I really just try to use a few high quality ingredients that people can find pretty much anywhere.

AP: When did you start cooking?

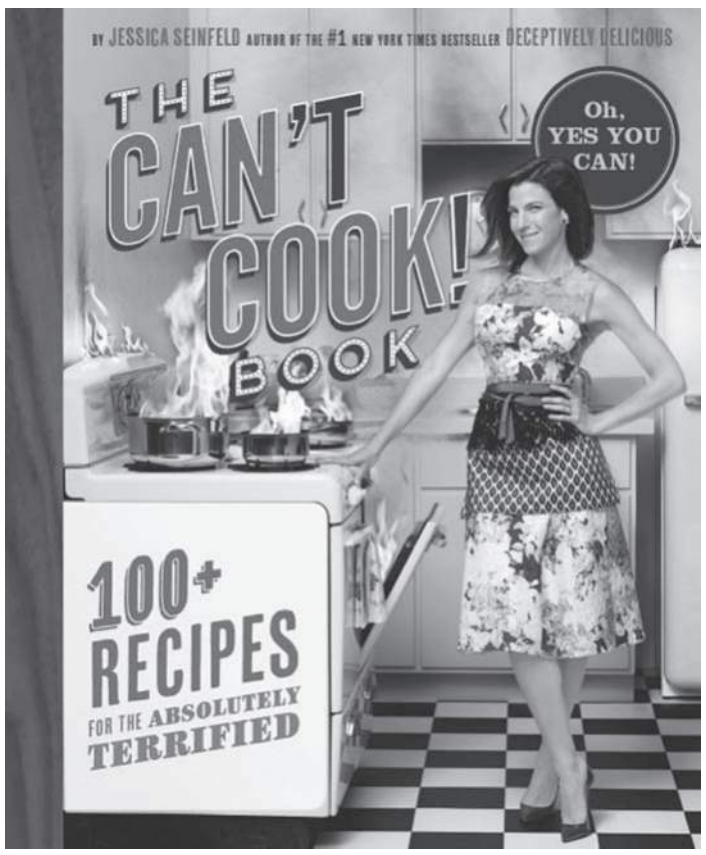
Seinfeld: I've been cooking since I was really young. My mom would call me before she left work and kind of tell me, `Here's how you do this and this is how you help me get started with dinner.' Dinner would sort of be halfway ready for her. And then she would leave me sticky notes when she got ready in the morning sometimes and as I got older I could just really help her get the meal going before she got home.

AP: Also, there's a sense of accomplishment that comes with cooking for yourself.

Seinfeld: It's a good thing to be in control of and a basic life skill in a way that you can take care of yourself. It's more economical, it's better for you and in the end, personally I hate not being good at something. I hate feeling like, `Oh, I can't do that.'

AP: Going back to your first two cookbooks, do you still have to hide vegetables from your kids?

Seinfeld: No! Luckily my kids eat vegetables now and they want salad every night.


BY JESSICA SEINFELD AUTHOR OF THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER DECEPTIVELY DELICIOUS
THE CAN'T COOK! BOOK
Oh, YES YOU CAN!
100+ RECIPES
FOR THE ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIED

AP

This photo released by Atria Books/Simon & Schuster, Inc. shows the cover of the cookbook, "The Can't Cook Book: Recipes for the Absolutely Terrified," by Jessica Seinfeld, published by Atria Books, a division of Simon & Schuster, Inc.

It's incredible for me that it worked.

AP: Are you mindful that you're in this position where you don't have financial stress (being married to Jerry Seinfeld)?

Seinfeld: Oh, for me in my life to not have financial stress, I don't even know what to do with that. It's really one of the things that motivated me to start Baby Buggy (a nonprofit organization that distributes new and gently used essentials to families). I felt so overwhelmed to not have financial stress that I couldn't get it out of my head. I'm very aware of what things cost. I've given that to my children because the first thing they ask is, `Is that expensive? Is that too expensive?' Not having financial stress for me is actually stressful.

Baby's birth is source of joy, anxiety for first-time dad

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I are about to welcome our first child and we are overjoyed. However, as her due date nears and we start talking about the birth, hospital, etc., I'm getting nervous and anxious. I'm worried, I guess, that something will happen to my wife and I won't be able to cope with everything.

I had a rough childhood. Expressing emotions sometimes is pretty hard for me, so my wife doesn't know about this. Any advice on how to express my fears without sounding like I'm scared of losing her and the baby and expecting the worst? Is this a common thing for first-time dads?

OVERLY EMOTIONAL IN TEXAS

DEAR OVERLY EMOTIONAL: Of course it is. You're not experiencing anything different than what other expectant fathers feel. But please understand that the incidence of maternal and infant mortality in the U.S. is VERY LOW.

Because your wife may have concerns or anxieties of her own, it would be better not to discuss your fears right now. If you have male friends or relatives who are parents, they might be willing to listen and offer support. Your family doctor could also listen and, if necessary, refer you to someone who can help you cope with your anxiety. But please understand that all of the feelings you're experiencing right now are very normal.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My granddaughter asked me a tough question today. She lives primarily with her mother and stepfather. Her biological father sees her two nights a week and every other weekend. When he asks her if she misses him, she says she has to lie and say she does. She hates lying and asked me how she can tell him she doesn't miss him very much without hurting his feelings. Can you give me some ideas?

STUCK FOR A RESPONSE IN NEVADA

DEAR STUCK: Your granddaughter should say, "Dad, please don't worry about me because I'm fine. I am adjusting." Period. It's the truth, it's not unkind and she won't have to feel like she's saying anything that should upset him.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: An ex-friend of mine recently apologized for some bad behavior toward me, saying she had been going through a rough time. She wants to renew our friendship and said she misses it. I was taken aback and didn't know what to say. I replied, "I'll get back to you about this," because I didn't want to hurt her feelings.

Abby, I have no desire to renew a friendship with her because I have had it with her volatile personality and her needy and clingy nature.

How do I eventually respond? I was thinking of saying I have a full plate of responsibilities and commitments right now and can't make plans. I value your opinion, so what do you think?

NEEDS THE RIGHT WORDS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR NEEDS THE RIGHT WORDS: You are under no obligation to resume a relationship with a troubled woman you're glad to be away from. Unless she has given you a deadline or manages to put you in a corner, you don't have to say anything more about it. However, if she does trap you into making some kind of statement, the one you related to me would be appropriate.

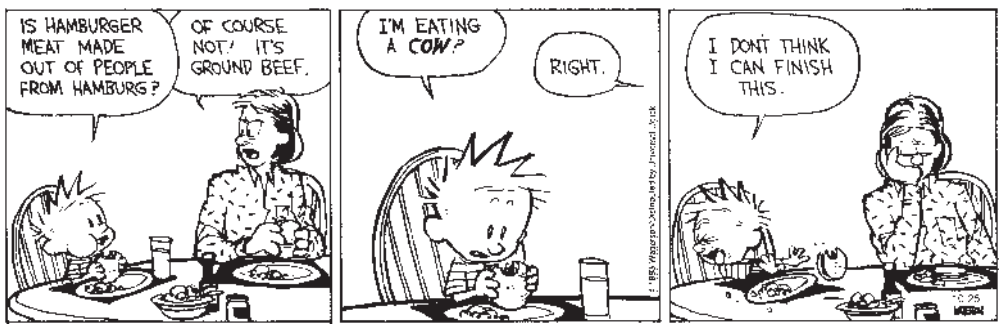
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

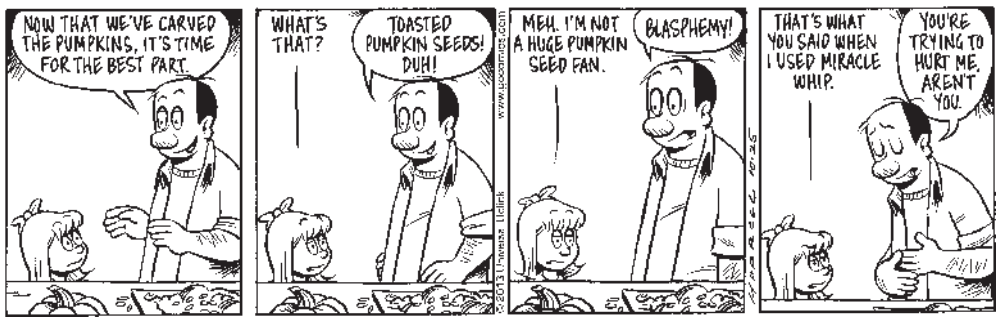

IS HAMBURGER MEAT MADE OUT OF PEOPLE FROM HAMBURG?
OF COURSE NOT. IT'S GROUND BEEF.
I'M EATING A COW?
RIGHT.
I DON'T THINK I CAN FINISH THIS.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

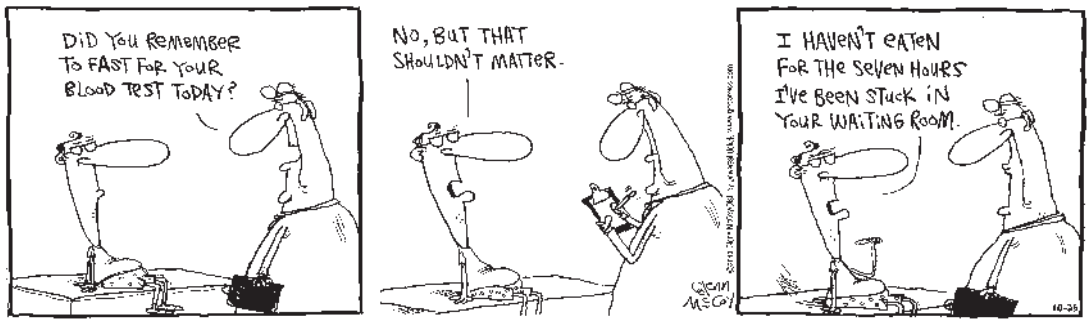
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


NOW THAT WE'VE CARVED THE PUMPKINS, IT'S TIME FOR THE BEST PART.
WHAT'S THAT?
TOASTED PUMPKIN SEEDS! DUH!
MEH. I'M NOT A HUGE PUMPKIN SEED FAN.
BLASPHEMY!
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID WHEN I USED MIRACLE WHIP.
YOU'RE TRYING TO HURT ME. AREN'T YOU.
YIKES!

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


DID YOU REMEMBER TO FAST FOR YOUR BLOOD TEST TODAY?
NO, BUT THAT SHOULDN'T MATTER.
I HAVEN'T EATEN FOR THE SEVEN HOURS I'VE BEEN STUCK IN YOUR WAITING ROOM.
10-25

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

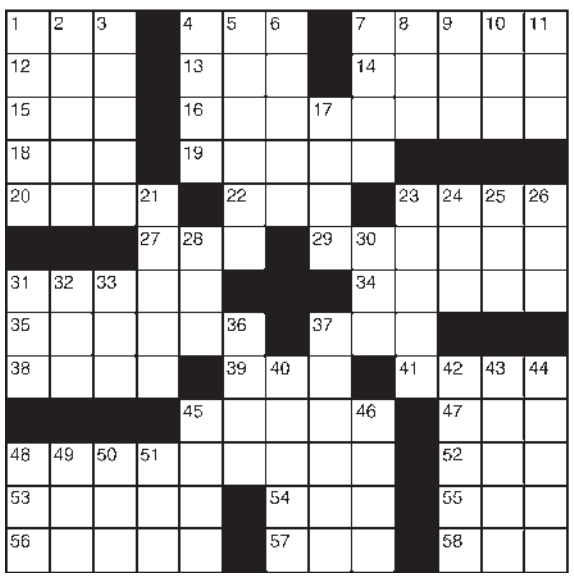
ACROSS
1 Treasure seeker's aid
4 Speed along
7 Student of Socrates
12 Oklahoma city
13 King beater
14 Severity
15 Wardrobe malfunction
16 Don't give up
18 Vast expanse
19 Reporter's coup
20 Ship's framework
22 Literary collection
23 Pleased
27 Jungfrau, for one
29 Iran, once
31 Pursuit
34 Divine
35 Individual
37 Hallowe'en shout
38 Bullets et al.
39 Eye (Sp.)
41 Soda shop order
45 Fort —, N.C.
47 Plant prickle
48 Small orange fruit
52 Exist
53 Inuit boat
54 Greek H
55 Spelldown
56 Move slightly
57 Perched
58 Toss in

DOWN
1 Swampy area
2 Farewell
3 Pontifical
4 Uses a ray gun on
5 Mountain cover, often
6 Don't cry for her, Argentina
7 Get ready
8 Ullmann or Tyler
9 Census number
10 Rocky peak
11 Raw rock
17 Detergent
21 Lariat
23 Wedding VIP
24 "Acid"
25 Have a bug
26 Rotation duration
28 Zodiac symbol
30 Id counterpart
31 Bkpr.
32 Height of fashion?
33 Branch
36 Standard
37 Capital of Colombia
40 Actor Cagney
42 Addis —
43 Enticed
44 Caught
45 Two-wheeler
46 Pesky insect
48 Tavern
49 Ostrich's cousin
50 Disencumber
51 Droop

Solution time: 25 mins.

F	E	N	■	C	A	L	L	■	M	E	R	E
A	G	O	■	O	L	I	O	■	A	S	I	A
N	O	N	E	V	E	N	T	■	R	A	G	S
■	■	T	O	E	■	K	U	M	Q	U	A	T
B	R	O	N	T	E	■	S	O	U	■	■	■
L	A	X	■	S	A	M	■	D	I	N	A	R
E	R	I	C	■	T	A	J	■	S	O	L	O
D	E	C	A	F	■	C	O	W	■	N	O	S
■	■	■	R	A	P	■	B	A	S	S	E	Y
P	R	E	V	A	I	L	■	N	E	T	■	■
L	O	C	I	■	N	O	N	D	A	I	R	Y
E	A	R	N	■	O	B	I	E	■	C	U	E
D	R	U	G	■	T	E	A	R	■	K	E	W

Yesterday's answer 10-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Ciara, 28; Katy Perry, 29; Josh Henderson, 32; Zachary Knighton, 35.

Happy Birthday: Strive to succeed; be an overachiever. Your ability to intuitively make good choices and follow through will lead to advancement. Show passion in whatever you do and you will exceed the expectations you set. This is your year to be selfish and work toward goals that satisfy you, not others. Put your energy into what matters most to you. Your numbers are 8, 11, 19, 25, 31, 46, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Simplicity, moderation and not letting situations upset you will help you get past any adversity you face. Focus on your needs. Do something that will make you happy and build your confidence. Love is in the stars. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Travel, reunite with friends who you don't get to see that often, or catch up on the latest news in your community. Make a move or positive change to your living arrangements or residence. Discuss plans with someone special. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Pick up knowledge, skills and information that can contribute to your work or help raise your income. Keep an open mind when dealing with family matters. Ask questions if the instructions you are given sound vague. Romance is highlighted. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Follow your intuition and creative dreams. Gather information that will make it easier for you to move in a positive direction. Changes to your living arrangements should encourage you to excel and reach your goals. Socializing will lead to a novel opportunity. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You have to make things happen. Waiting around for someone else to make a move will take forever. Problems with family or concerns regarding your assets and liabilities will weigh on your mind. Plan a romantic evening and ease your stress. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Network, participate and introduce yourself to new people. Your openness and sincerity will put others at ease and lead to an interesting collaboration. Partnerships will develop. A domestic problem must be taken care of without hesitation. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't waste your time trying to change what others think or do. Follow your heart and you will meet people who share your interests. Engage in creative hobbies and plan to socialize. Love, romance and good times should be your goal. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Put love, romance and interesting outings at the top of your to-do list. Don't make changes based on an emotional incident. Think matters through and you'll find a reasonable solution. A trip to a unique destination will change your attitude. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't be fooled by someone trying to talk you into a joint financial venture. Lock up your money so that temptation is futile. If you really want to invest, consider upgrades to your home or your skills. Build assets, not liabilities. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Look into alternative ways of earning a living and you will find a means to an end. Money matters should not be left to someone else. Expand your knowledge and your relationships with others. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take the initiative to change your game plan or develop a skill or service that improves your chance to succeed. Don't let anyone slow you down. Listen, but don't give in to demands or bullying. Make a choice and follow through. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Whatever you decide to do, follow through with confidence. You can set yourself apart from anyone trying to outdo or compete with you. An unexpected and unusual financial or emotional gain is heading in your direction. Stand tall and prepare to celebrate. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intelligent, dedicated and intense. You participate and help others.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

3								8
			5		9			
6		4				3		1
			7		6			
	5		3		2		8	
			4		1			
2		7				4		6
			2		3			
1								9

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	4	9	8	7	5	1	6	2
8	6	5	9	2	1	7	3	4
1	7	2	6	4	3	5	8	9
5	3	7	4	6	8	9	2	1
4	1	6	2	5	9	3	7	8
2	9	8	1	3	7	6	4	5
9	2	3	7	1	4	8	5	6
7	8	4	5	9	6	2	1	3
6	5	1	3	8	2	4	9	7

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/24

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE BIG HOUSE, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN Solution: 10 letters

E	F	A	N	S	D	N	A	T	S	E	S	R	O	H
T	A	U	T	O	W	S	E	G	A	R	E	V	E	B
I	U	A	N	N	A	R	B	O	R	L	E	T	A	H
U	E	R	O	S	T	R	O	P	S	C	N	I	O	O
S	L	L	F	I	E	L	D	I	N	O	L	C	S	T
N	L	G	N	I	C	A	R	A	I	I	K	K	O	D
O	A	T	R	A	H	C	D	T	B	E	C	E	H	O
I	B	T	N	H	Z	N	C	A	Y	A	L	T	C	G
S	T	V	E	T	E	U	R	Ⓦ	N	R	U	S	A	S
S	O	C	I	T	R	O	Ⓞ	S	G	E	B	I	N	N
E	O	R	T	T	M	Ⓡ	O	F	T	A	L	P	E	S
C	F	A	S	E	G	E	L	L	O	C	M	S	S	D
N	I	N	M	U	L	A	C	R	O	S	S	E	I	R
O	O	E	D	I	S	T	S	A	E	P	O	H	S	A
C	E	R	E	M	O	N	I	E	S	S	A	R	G	Y

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Yesterday's Answer: Cybermen

To purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 35, 36, 37 or 38**, call 1-800-642-6480. Order online at wonderword.universaluclick.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

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P: 670-483-9351 • **E:** tgoodwin@saipan.com

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American K&W Corporation
PMB 978 BOX 10001 Saipan, MP 96950

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Saipan Tribune

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1-Commercial Cleaner
1-Maintenance Repairer

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No Phone Calls Please

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) EXECUTIVE CHEF
Work requires eight (8) years progressive experience in high volume food production or catering in multi-unit restaurant Hotel or Resort environment. Experience preparing multi-ethnic cuisine is required. Must have the following: strong leadership/communication skills at all levels of the organization. Exceptional guest focus and proven positive employee relations skills a must. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays.

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Coordinates all local Japanese sales efforts. Develops and maintains relationships with local Japanese tour companies and local representatives of Japan wholesalers. Responsibilities include coordinating all local marketing efforts targeted to Japanese tourists while in Saipan, placing advertisements in Japanese language publications, forecasting wholesaler materialization, organizing Japanese groups, representing hotel at JSTA and local Japanese Society, supervising Japanese market campaigns, conducting weekly sales calls and hosting Japanese media and travel agent familiarization tours. Prepares required weekly and monthly reports. Three (3) years of Sales Manager experience for the hotel industry is required. Proficiency in Japanese language (verbal, written, reading and understanding) as well as Japanese MS Office, Epitome, Japanese hotel booking systems is required.

(3) HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR
Two (2) years Housekeeping Supervisor experience required (minimum 300 rooms hotel). Motivated self-starter, ability to clean rooms as required, responsible for checking up to 80 rooms per shift. Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays.

(9) ROOM ATTENDANT
Minimum of one (1) year of experience as a room attendant. Motivated self-starter responsible for cleaning up to 17 rooms per shift. Must be able to work evenings/weekends/graveyard shifts/holidays.

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Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
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Completed applications must be received by 5:00pm on October 28, 2013.

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Classified Ads

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Lester, Red Sox rout sloppy Cards in opener

AP

St. Louis Cardinals starting pitcher Adam Wainwright, left, rear watches as Boston Red Sox's Jonny Gomes, left, Jacoby Ellsbury, center, and Dustin Pedroia, celebrate a three-run scoring double by Mike Napoli during the first inning of Game 1 of baseball's World Series Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2013, in Boston.

BOSTON (AP)—An easy toss on a sure out that skittered away. A routine popup that somehow dropped between Gold Glovers. And something even more startling - umpires reversing a key call.

Most everything fell into place for the Boston Red Sox in the World Series opener.

Mike Napoli hit a three-run double right after a game-changing decision in the very first inning, Jon Lester made the early lead stand up and the Red Sox romped past the sloppy St. Louis Cardinals 8-1 Wednesday night for their ninth straight Series win.

A season before Major League Baseball is expected to expand instant replay, fans got to see a preview. The entire six-man crew huddled and flipped a ruling on a forceout at second base - without looking at any video.

"I think based on their group conversation, surprisingly, to a certain extent, they overturned it and I think got the call right," Boston manager John Farrell said.

David Ortiz was robbed of a grand slam by Carlos Beltran - a catch that sent the star right fielder to a hospital with bruised ribs - but Big Papi later hit a two-run homer following third baseman David Freese's bad throw.

The Red Sox also capitalized on two errors by shortstop Pete Kozma to extend a Series winning streak that began when they swept St. Louis in 2004. Boston never trailed at any point in those four games and coasted on this rollicking night at Fenway Park, thanks to a hideous display by the Cardinals,

It got so bad for St. Louis that the sellout crowd literally laughed when pitcher Adam Wainwright and catcher Yadier Molina, who've combined to win six Gold Gloves, let an easy popup drop untouched between them.

Serious-minded St. Louis manager Mike Matheny didn't find anything funny, especially when the umpires changed a call by Dana DeMuth at second base.

"Basically, the explanation is that's not a play I've ever seen before. And I'm pretty sure there were six umpires on the field that had never seen that play before, either," Matheny said.

"It's a pretty tough time to debut that overruled call in the World Series. Now, I get that they're trying to get the right call, I get that. Tough one to swallow," he said.

DeMuth said he never actually saw Kozma drop the ball.

"My vision was on the foot. And when I was coming up, all I could see was a hand coming out and the ball on the ground. All right? So I was assuming," DeMuth told a pool reporter.

There was no dispute, however, that the umpires properly ruled Kozma had not caught a soft toss from second baseman Matt Carpenter on a potential forceout. That's what crew chief John Hirschbeck told Matheny.

"I just explained to him ... that five of us were 100 percent sure," Hirschbeck said. "Our job is to get the play right. And that's what we did."

"I said, `I know you are not happy with it, that it went against you, but you have to understand that the play is correct,'" he said.

The normally slick-fielding Cardinals looked sloppy at every turn. Wainwright bounced a pickoff throw, Molina let a pitch trickle off his mitt, center fielder Shane Robinson bobbled the carom on Napoli's double and there was a wild pitch.

The Cardinal Way? More like, no way.

"We had a wakeup call. That is not the kind of team that we've been all season," Matheny said. "And they're frustrated. I'm sure embarrassed to a point."

Game 2 is Thursday night, with 22-year-old rookie sensation Michael Wacha starting for St. Louis against John Lackey. Wacha is 3-0 with a 0.43 ERA this postseason.

Beltran is day to day after X-rays were negative.

Lester blanked the Cardinals on five hits over 7 2-3 innings and struck out eight for his third win this postseason.

"We wanted to set the tone and get them swinging," he said.

Ryan Dempster gave up Matt Holliday's leadoff home run in the ninth.

Boston brought the beards and made it a most hairy night for St. Louis. The Cardinals wrecked themselves with just their second three-error game of the season.

The umpires made a mistake, too, but at least they got to fix it in a hurry.

After the control-conscious Wainwright walked leadoff man Jacoby Ellsbury, Dustin Pedroia singled him to second with one out.

Ortiz then hit a slow grounder to Carpenter, and it didn't appear the Cardinals could turn a double play. Hurrying, Kozma let the backhanded flip glance off his glove.

DeMuth instantly called Pedroia out, indicating that Kozma dropped the ball while trying to transfer it to his throwing hand. Farrell quickly popped out of the dugout to argue while Pedroia went to the bench.

Farrell argued with every umpire he could and must've made a persuasive case. As the fans hollered louder and louder as they studied TV replays, all the umpires gathered on the dirt near shortstop and conferred and decided there was no catch at all.

"You rarely see that, especially on a stage like this," Napoli said. "But I think that was good for the game."

Pedroia came bounding from the dugout and suddenly, the bases were loaded in the first. Napoli unloaded them with a double that rolled to the Green Monster in left-center.

Napoli, with maybe the bushiest beard of all, certainly picked up where he left off the last time he saw the Cardinals in October. In the 2011 Series, he hit .350 with two home runs and 10 RBIs as Texas lost in seven games to St. Louis.

The Red Sox added to their 3-0 lead with two more runs in the second. A fielding error by Kozma set up Pedroia's RBI single.

The whole inning got going when Stephen Drew's popup in front of the mound landed at Wainwright's feet, a step or two from Molina. The ace pitcher and the star catcher both hung their heads.

"I called it. I waited for someone else to take charge. That's not the way to play baseball. It was totally my error," Wainwright said.

Ortiz, who hit a tying grand slam at Fenway in the AL championship series win over Detroit, sent a long drive to right-center. Beltran, playing in his first World Series, braced himself with one hand on the low wall in front of the bullpen and reached over with his glove to make the catch.

"At least I got an RBI and we were up four and got the momentum," Ortiz said.

Beltran hurt himself on the play and left in the third inning.

Things went wrong, quickly, for St. Louis

BOSTON (AP)—Carlos Beltran reached over the bullpen wall to deprive David Ortiz of a second-inning grand slam, then rubbed his right side in pain. He soon left the game and the ballpark, headed to the hospital for X-rays.

Even the good defensive plays were costly for the Cardinals.

One of the best-fielding teams in the league over the regular-season, the NL champs bungled their way into an early deficit in Game 1 of the World Series and went on to lose 8-1 to the Boston Red Sox on Wednesday night. St. Louis committed three errors in all, with several other misplays that spotted Boston to a 5-0 lead after two innings.

"That is not the kind of team that we've been all season," manager Mike Matheny said. "They're frustrated, (and) I'm sure embarrassed to a point. We get an opportunity to show the kind of baseball we played all season long and it didn't look anything like what we saw tonight."

Shortstop Pete Kozma botched a potential inning-ending double play relay to load the bases in the first. Center fielder Shane Robinson bobbled Mike Napoli's double, allowing the bases to clear. Pitcher Adam Wainwright and catcher Yadier Molina, both Gold Glove winners, allowed an easy popup to fall between them at the start of Boston's two-run second.

Wainwright, who waved his arms but then made no attempt to catch the ball, said the responsibility for the misplay was "with the starting pitcher."

"I called it. I waited for someone else to take charge. That's not the way to play baseball," he said. "It was totally my error."

Kozma made another error on a bouncer to his right in the second inning. Asked in the clubhouse afterward what happened, the Cardinals shortstop said, "Which one?"

The three errors and four unearned runs both matched season highs for St. Louis.

"That's the game in the playoffs: You give them extra outs, they're going to score," said Kozma, who made only nine errors all season and had never made two in a game before. "That's how the games work: one thing happens and then you're down 3-0."

But Beltran's catch, which turned a grand slam into a sacrifice fly and saved three runs, might actually turn out to be the most damaging. After finishing the half-inning, Beltran left the game with what was called a bruise and was taken to the hospital for X-rays and a CT scan.

Matheny said the tests were negative and Beltran's availability would be evaluated daily. Game 2 is Thursday night in Boston.

"Obviously, he's sore," designated hitter Allen Craig said. "But hopefully he can get back tomorrow."

Beltran, who is in the World Series for the first time in his 16-year career, batted .296 with 24 homers and 84 RBIs in the regular season and has 12 RBIs in the playoffs this year. An eight-time All-Star, he hit.337 with 16 homers and 37 RBIs in 45 career postseason games heading into the World Series.

Beltran had 12 RBIs in the NL playoffs this year. He struck out in his only at-bat Wednesday.

Rex to Belichick: 'Not true,' Jets also pushed

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. (AP)—Rex Ryan pushed back at Bill Belichick.

The New York coach vehemently denied the New England coach's claim that the Jets used similar push techniques on field goals against the Patriots on Sunday.

''That's not true!'' Ryan said Wednesday.

During a conference call Tuesday with Boston reporters, Belichick was asked if he was bothered by a report that said the Jets alerted officials to the Patriots pushing on field goals. New England was called for the penalty - the first time it had been called in a game - to set up New York's winning field goal in overtime Sunday.

''Well, I mean, since they were using the play themselves, I don't even know about all that,'' Belichick said. ''But, basically we're just moving on here.''

Belichick was apparently referring to a play during Stephen Gostkowski's 44-yard field goal with 16 seconds left in regulation. Quinton Coples appeared to extend his right arm and slightly push teammate Muhammad Wilkerson from behind toward the Patriots' formation.

There was no call on that play, but it was also not as evident as what the Patriots did in overtime when Nick Folk was wide left on a 56-yarder, but had the miss was negated when New England's Chris Jones was called for unsportsmanlike conduct on a 15-yard penalty. Jones was penalized for pushing his teammate ''into the opponents' formation.''

Folk kicked a 42-yarder to win it a few minutes later, giving the Jets a 30-27 victory.

Belichick disagreed with the application of the rule after the game, saying, ''You can't push in the second level. I didn't think we did that.'' Belichick backtracked Monday, saying he was mistaken in his interpretation.

But then came his accusatory comments on Tuesday.

''He's got to make up his mind,'' Ryan said. ''Was he aware of this thing? Was it second-level, all this kind of jazz? Or, now the story is we did it? OK, I got you.

''The fact is, we're moving on. We earned that victory plain and simple, and we're focused on Cincinnati now.''

Meanwhile, Washington Redskins safety Brandon Meriweather's two-game suspension from the NFL for multiple helmet-to-helmet hits was cut in half Wednesday on appeal.

Two days after Meriweather was told he would miss time for repeated violations of player safety rules, hearing officer Ted Cottrell reduced the punishment to one game. Cottrell was jointly appointed by the league and the players' union.

AP

New York Jets free safety Antonio Allen (39) and New England Patriots' Rob Gronkowski (87) fight for control of the ball during the first half of an NFL football game Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013 in East Rutherford, N.J.

Meriweather's suspension by NFL vice president of football operations Merton Hanks came for repeated hits to the head and neck area of defenseless players, including two in Washington's 45-41 victory over the Chicago Bears on Sunday.

Meriweather was flagged for a helmet-to-helmet hit when tackling receiver Alshon Jeffery on a 28-yard completion with about two minutes left in the third quarter. He also was penalized for a helmet-first hit on Brandon Marshall in the end zone on an incomplete pass with a little more than four minutes remaining in the game.

''All of these officials, if they're going to make a mistake, they want to protect the player, so if it's anywhere close to being a helmet-to-helmet, they are throwing a 15-yard flag, and that's what they're being told to do. If you get anywhere around that head, you've got a chance to hurt your football team,'' Washington coach Mike Shanahan said Wednesday in Ashburn, Va. ''We're constantly emphasizing it, but it's tough in the heat of battle for these guys. You're very competitive. You want to get after them. Then all of a sudden, a guy might duck at the last second, and all of a sudden you have helmet-to-helmet, and they don't even look at intent.''

In Week 2, Meriweather was fined $42,000 for a helmet-first hit on Green Bay running back Eddie Lacy, forcing Lacy out of the game with a concussion. Later that same day, another helmet-first hit gave Meriweather himself a concussion, knocking him out of the game.

Meriweather will lose about $70,000 in salary when he sits out Sunday's game at the Denver Broncos. He is not allowed to participate in any football activities with the team during the suspension.

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As Stern preps exit, NBA Finals format changed

NEW YORK (AP) -- David Stern's NBA owners gathered one last time, toasting the outgoing commissioner before he leaves after 30 years on the job.

They also changed back one of the earliest changes Stern made.

Leaving with Stern is the NBA Finals format he implemented in his first full year on the job, one that alleviated travel concerns but critics felt also gave an advantage to the lower-seeded team.

Beginning with the 2014 finals, the higher-seeded team will host Games 1, 2, 5 and 7. The lower seed gets Games 3, 4 and 6, following the same format the NBA uses in all other rounds.

AP

NBA Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver, left, smiles as NBA Commissioner David Stern shows a bobblehead doll in his likeness, during a press conference after a meeting of the NBA board of governors, Wednesday, Oct. 23, 2013 in New York. Stern will formally step aside Feb. 1, 2014, after 30 years and Silver will become the new NBA commissioner.

The NBA for the previous 29 years has used what's referred to as the 2-3-2 format, in which the higher seed hosts the first two games, then goes on the road for three straight.

The 2-3-2 format was instituted in 1985 in part to ease the amount of cross-country travel with the Celtics and Lakers frequently meeting for the championship. But some felt it also worked against the team that should have the advantage.

"There certainly was a perception ... it was unfair to the team that had the better record, that it was then playing the pivotal Game 5 on the road. So this obviously moves that game back to giving home-court advantage to the team with the better record if it's a 2-2 series," Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said.

The unanimous vote to approve the 2-2-1-1-1 format came Wednesday during Stern's final preseason meeting with his board of governors. Owners also voted to add an extra day between Games 6 and 7.

The league's competition committee had recommended the change last month back to 2-2-1-1-1, which was used in all but one finals from 1957 to 1984.

Stern has often said he was acting on advice - or complaints - about the travel from former Celtics boss Red Auerbach when the finals format was switched. But with commercial flights long since replaced by charters, teams didn't have the same difficulties now with the number of trips.

Instead, the ones who had the higher seed found it more inconvenient, Stern said, to be on the road for as many as eight days in a row when the opponent hosted the middle three games.

Silver, who will become commissioner after Stern retires Feb. 1, is a proponent of the 2-2-1-1-1 format, though he said Stern and other league executives all thought it was time for the change.

"It reached a crescendo where basketball people thought it was important and the business people stood down and said it was no longer necessary for the convenience of transportation or the media," Silver said.

Beyond the re-election of Spurs owner Peter Holt as chairman, there was little other business for the owners, who toasted Stern during dinner Tuesday night. Stern said there was a video tribute voiced by Bill Russell, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, Tim Duncan, Kobe Bryant and LeBron James, along with "some speechifying" and "a series of totally embarrassing photos of me over the last 36 years."

"I got the opportunity to thank my colleagues at the NBA for their incredible work and saying how pleased I was that the league was in such good hands under those colleagues and Adam's stewardship," Stern said.

The owners were also presented with a Stern bobblehead doll. The commissioner said Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert joked that unlike most bobbleheads whose heads nod up and down, Stern's only moves side to side as if shaking its head no.

"It's been a great opportunity," Stern said. "Believe it or not, even including my interaction with the media and the burns that come from being a lightning rod, it's been a great run, and I'm grateful to the owners for giving me the opportunity."

Oden returns as Heat best Pelicans, 108-95

Oden returns as Heat best Pelicans

In New Orleans, for Greg Oden and his Miami Heat teammates, four minutes on an NBA court in a preseason game was cause for celebration.

"It's been a long time and I've been wanting to get out there," Oden said after his preseason debut in Miami's 108-95 victory at New Orleans on Wednesday night. "It was only a couple minutes, but it was what I needed, what I can handle right now and, you know, small baby steps."

Oden is attempting to come back from knee injuries that have plagued him since he was drafted first overall out of Ohio State in 2007. The last time he played in an NBA game was on Dec. 5, 2009, for the Portland Trail Blazers.

Not long after he came in against the Pelicans, he scored his only points of the night on a dunk, which was also his only shot. He also grabbed a pair of defensive rebounds.

"It was a very special moment," LeBron James said of Oden's appearance. "I have no idea what my feeling would be like, being away from the game for three years. It was like a proud moment, man. I was so excited for him when he got on the court and he checked in - and his first basket he gets a dunk. Can you write it any better? Obviously he's not where he wants to be, but the process is going great.

"I can just imagine how excited he was to get back out there," James continued. "I'm going to have to take a toast for him, man. I ain't no drinker, but I might have to take a shot for him. It was an absolutely great moment."

YOUNGEST

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ner's bracket semifinals. In the semis set last Sunday, Malasarte and Ortega were paired against Deether Edralin and Dianne Francisco and cruised to victory via forfeiture.

With its perfect 3-0 record, Ortega and Malasarte did not only make it to the finals first, but also got a twice-to-beat advantage in the title game. Edralin and Francisco, who earlier defeated Kevin Park and Patricia Abantao, 21-14, 21-17, and Rowena Sison and Young Sang, 15-21, 21-13, 21-15, dropped to the loser's bracket and will play in a knockout game this Saturday to get a second crack at Malasarte and Ortega.

Edralin and Francisco's foes will be the winner in another make-or-break game between the tandem of Panapa Peteru and Lani Santos and Sang and Sison. Peteru and Santos first fell to Sang and Sison, 11-21, 18-21, but kept their hopes alive after notching back-to-back wins against Park and Abantao, 21-18, 21-19, and Mendieta and Jinang, 21-20, 19-21, 21-15. Sison and Sang also remained in contention after eliminating Fernandez and Olivos, 21-14, 21-18.

In other results, siblings Jordan and Janelle Pangilinan barged into the semifinals of the mixed doubles B after surviving Cris Hilario and Windy Fernandez, 20-21, 21-17, 21-20. The Pangilinans will be up against Roger Vales and Shirley Kim, who swept J.P. Nopia and Havika Farro, 21-18, 21-9.

In the mixed doubles C, the winner's bracket semis will pit the pair of Glenn Bluutjens and Alma Ortega versus the duo of Ferdie Arago and Lano Bartolome. Ortega and Bluutjens drew a bye in the first round and advanced to the semis after a 21-15, 21-15 win over Jexler Caranto and Janelle Pangilinan, who came from a 21-20, 14-21, 21-14 triumph over Ezekiel Macario and Jen Savellano.

Arago and Bartolome played in the first round and won against Elna Curate and Andreau Galvez, 21-12, 19-21, 21-18 before defeating Sam Jones and Malou Malasarte, 21-11, 21-12, to move one win away from earning a finals berth.

The mixed doubles over 40 division is also in the semifinals with Joel Ortega and Marlene Peraja nailing the first berth after topping Piao and Merlie Tolentino, 21-8, 21-9, and Edwin Montoya and Ana Alvarez, 21-16, 21-16. Victor Regis and Ana Omori took the other semis ticket, as they also bagged two wins over the weekend after outclassing Jojo and Merlie Savellano, 12-21, 21-16, 21-10 , and Vales and So Young, 12-21, 21-16, 21-8.

Despite dropping their second game, Vales and Young and Montoya and Alvarez are still in the race after eliminating Peteru and Cristy Villaflor, 21-11, 21-16, and Ariel Mariano and Curate, 19-21, 21-15, 21-12, respectively.

Meanwhile, four more teams gained semis entries in the men's doubles. In the C division, Eydie Uy and Ronnie edged Fernandez and Lance Bartolome, 21-18, 21-18 to march into the semis against Han Cheol and Young Sang, who prevailed over Kevin Park and Jeremy Montenejo, 21-7, 21-13. In the A division, Bluutjens and Jones downed Arago and Macoi Aguda, 21-17, 21-14, to earn a semis duel against Caranto and Galvez, who automatically advanced after getting a bye in the first round.

ISLAND

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ter a 0-2 start, capitalizing on the early absence of Adobo key players. Adobo played without Lester Vertudez in the first half, while Ichitaro Faisao arrived only in the fourth quarter.

Despite missing its main gunners, Adobo managed to keep up with Kixx in the first half, fallimg behind by only one, 33-34, before the latter turned on the heat in the third canto and raced to a 61-44 advantage.

Erlan Lansang and George De Guzman teamed up in the third-quarter push with the former connecting on two triples and scoring 8 points. De Guzman also had 8 markers and four other Kixx players scored in the third to set up the upset.

MONDAY

Kixx 74 – De Guzman 27, Lansang 12, Guiab 12, Tibayan 7, Pangelinan 4, Fernandez 3, De Jesus 3, Patawaran 2.

Adobo 56 – De Leon 15, Yap 12, Faisao 8, Saturno 8, Apelo 7, Gotengco 4, Vertudez 2.

Scoring by quarters: 15-4, 34-33, 61-44, 74-56.

WEDNESDAY

First Game

Island Floral 67 – Tabora 14, Standish 12, Santos 9, Teregeyo 8, Bisana 8, Norita 8, Lieto 3, Tobias 3.

Maplas 60 – Devero 25, Mendoza 17, R. Usi 10, M. Usi 6, Mateo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-14, 29-28, 47-41, 67-60.

Second Game

Fong's Bakery 66 – Camacho 16, Bahillo 15, Jose 8, Guntar 4, Reyes 4, Santos 4, Barrios 4, David 3, Corotan 2, Samson 2.

Docomo Pacific 58 – Villacrusis 13, Paraiso 11, Sanciangco 8, Tudela 7, Gomez 6, Camacho 6, Sison 3.

Scoring by quarters: 11-10, 37-19, 49-38, 66-58.

NMASA

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the facilities. Rogolifoi is seen at the complex almost every day, but he and NMASA have yet to go full blast on its plans and program for the facilities, as they do not want to risk complications that may arise without the approval of House Bill 18-111.

"NMASA is pleased that HB 18-111 has passed the House, and thanks the House and its members for their rapid and favorable consideration of the bill. This bill is urgently needed by NMASA in order to enable us to carry out the duties and responsibilities assigned to us by law, and to provide programs and facilities for the sporting community of the CNMI. We urge the Senate to act favorably on this bill as soon as possible," NMASA president Michael White said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Sablan introduced the NMASA bill in August this year and before that two more similar measures were drafted about two years ago. Sablan's bill retained majority of the provisions in the public law that created NMASA such as the group's exclusive jurisdiction (directly or through constituent members or committees) on the CNMI's participation to regional and international competitions. However, the Oleai takeover, independence from DCCA, levying of fees for usage of facilities, awarding of vending and advertising rights, and operation of a public lottery provisions are keys to NMASA's bid to function on its own, raising funds to support its operations and programs.

NMASA will initially operate on the allocated $193, 228 approved under the fiscal year 2014 budget bill that was turned into Public Law 18-18 on Sept. 18.

Over 80 students join NMA cross country series

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The first two legs of the Northern Marianas Athletics' 2013 All School Cross Country Series drew over 80 students.

The first leg on Oct. 12 was held at the Airport Field with the U8 age group luring the most participants with 14. Saipan Community School's Hana Ojima led the finishers list after clocking in at 9:00 in the one-lap course that had runners rounding the field once (about 900 meters)

Maria Sablan placed second with her 9:30, followed by her SCS schoolmates Michelle Ryu (9:57), Chloe Seo (9:58), Katie Choi (10:04), Saniya Sunil (10:25), Madina Tang (11:26), and Casssidy Estrada (12:18). Four-year-old Phoenix Gross also joined the U18 race and timed in at 12:33, finishing ahead of Grace Kim (12:41) and Abbie Kim (13:49).

In the boys division, SCS' Daniel Kang logged 8:52 to beat schoolmate Reef Camacho (8:51.50) and Josh Lunzaga (12:03).

In the second leg held in Susupe (about 700m), Estrada topped the girls U8 with her 8:08. Completing the finishers list were San Antonio Elementary School's Davierrin Blas (8:49), Oleai's Kina Rangamar (9:07), Garapan's Sarapina Terry (9:15) and SCS' Aoi Braxton (9:22), Hilah Bacumi (9:25), and Tang (9:33).

Kang also joined the second leg and won anew after submitting 7:30. He prevailed over Oleai's Bwilitomwar Rangamar (8:19) and schoolmates' Drei Camacho (9:34) and Lunzaga (9:52).

In the U10 division, different winners emerged after two legs. SCS' Riko Ojima and Hyun Lee won the first leg after recording 8:23 and 7:22, respectively. Ojima edged schoolmate Victoria Jade Torres (8:39), while Lee defeated eight other SCS runners.

In the second leg, SCS' Sedrei Camacho clocked in at 7:04 to edge Torres (5:21) and Nathannette Blas (7:29). In the boys U12, SCS' Paul Ham checked in at 7:02 to thwart Vincent Bacami (7:55), Moon Zeng (9:37), and Tommy Cayetano (9:44).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior high and high school runners head out to the course during the first leg of Northern Marianas Athletics' 2013 All School Cross Country Series held at the Airport Field early this month.

In the U14 age group (about 1,900m), three SCS took the top spot, while a runner from Hopwood Junior High School completed the first place finishers list. Mimi Saano and Haruya Eda ruled the first leg after registering 8:05 and 6:50, respectively, while fellow SCS runner Desrei Camacho won the Susupe run with a time of 6:53. Hopwood's Janroe Alcazor foiled an SCS sweep when he posted 6:27 and beat the Tsunamis' Ravil Bacani (7:21), Maruf Mamon (7:51), and Sange Xie Nan (9:09).

Hopwood got two more first place finishes in the first two legs with Ness Siech winning the Susupe race (about 1,400m) in the boys U14 division after tallying 13:15. In the Airport Field leg, J.J. Jones gave the Hilitai its first win after prevailing in the boys division with his field-best time of 13:55. SCS' Melani He reigned supreme against four Hopwood runners in the first leg of the girls U14 race after clocking in at 21:40.

In the U18 division, Marianas High School teammates Negahr Rastguiy, Gabrielle Race, Mikayla Lopez, and Alexa Vergara submitted identical times of 16:45, finishing ahead of fellow Lady Dolphins Lourdes Seman (20:38), Hercia Nekaifes (20:21), and Brianna Pangelinan (21:29). It was also an all-MHS show in the boys division with Simel Charfauros Jr. timing in at 14:42 to down five other Dolphins bet.

Seman was the lone MHS runner who joined the second leg and registered 15:38, while Edgem Bedania , also of MHS, debuted in the Susupe race and recorded 10:39 to top six other runners. It was a 1-2-3 finish for MHS as Seiya Eda and Lewill Cristobal came in next with their 10:40 and 11:24, respectively.

Meanwhile, the third and final leg of the series will be held tomorrow at 6:30am at the American Memorial Park. Registration starts at 6am.

NMIFA fall youth league returns to action

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2013 NMIFA Youth Fall League managed to resume action last weekend and played some games after several cancelations of matches in the past two weeks due to the inclement weather.

In the girls U15 division, Paire Football Club dueled Tan Holdings FC on Court 1 at the Hopwood Junior High School Field and eked out a 1-0 victory. Both teams showed some rust after a long break and went scoreless in the first few minutes of the game before Guinevere Borja put Paire on the board with her goal in the 15th minute.

Goals continued to be elusive for Tan Holdings FC in the second half, allowing Paire FC to save the win.

Over on Court 2, Shirley's FC was scheduled to meet Matansa FC, but the latter forfeited the match due to lack of players.

In other results, MP United FC downed Tan Holdings FC, 4-1, in the boys U18 game last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United drew goals from different players to keep its perfect record after three games. Jehn Joyner scored first for MP United, while Paire also found the back of the net in the first half, courtesy of Sean Perez's goal. The Norman del Rosario-coached MP United then broke the deadlock in the second half with Tanapon Unsa earning a goal. MP United went on to dominate the second half with Daniel Lim and Chris Park also lighting up the scoreboard.

In the boys U15 division, MP United was also victorious, beating Tan Holdings, 1-0, in their Oct. 12 duel. Julian Pellegrino made the lone goal in the make-up match at the Oleai pitch, scoring in the sixth minute.

Meanwhile, the boys U15 games last Friday were rescheduled due to rain.

Matches in the M-League were also cancelled, as the Oleai pitch was unplayable last Sunday. The M-League was out of action for more than two weeks and only resumed play last Wednesday with the CNMI Women's National Team playing Kanoa Resort FC. Results of that match were unavailable at press time.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Referee Amzad Khan releases the ball to restart the MP United and Shirley's FC game in the girls U15 division of the NMIFA league, which held only some games last week after cancelling matches for the past two weekends due to the inclement weather.

MGA awards October Ace to Poiroux

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

October Ace John Poiroux, left, poses with fellow Marianas Golf Association members after completing the October Ace of the Month Tournament at the Kingfisher Golf Links on Oct. 13.

Marianas Golf Association held its October Ace of the Month Tournament at the Kingfisher Golf Links on Oct. 13 with newcomer James Benavente topping the competition.

Benavente, a 22-handicapper, shot the lowest net score of 68, recording identical 45s on the front and back nines . Another new member, Frank Cabrera finished second with his net 69. He posted a 46 on the front and 43 on the back for a gross score of 89 and was just one stroke behind Benavente after having a 20 handicap. Rep. Tony Benavente shot a 40 on the front and 39 on the back for a gross score of 79 and with a handicap of 8, he got a third-best net of 71.

Despite placing in the Top 3, none of the three took home this month's plum, as MGA club regulations state that in order for a member to qualify for the Ace of Aces tournament at the end of the year, he or she must participate in at least five Ace of the Month tournaments. With that, James Benavente and Frank Cabrera will not be able to qualify for the Ace of Aces as the club has only the November and December Ace of the Month tournaments to play. Tony Benavente has already gained a slot to the season-ending competition after bagging the January Ace of the Month so the October Ace of the Month went to the fourth finisher John Poiroux. Poiroux shot a 43 in the first nines holes and 47 in the last, giving him a gross score of 90. With a handicap of 18, Poiroux notched a net score of 72

In the closest to the pin contests, Joey Dela Cruz won on hole Nos. 6 and 13, , Frank Cabrera topped the No. 8 and James Benavente prevailed on No. 15.

MGA would like to thank John and Debbie Poiroux for hosting the club's banquet.

Meanwhile, MGA will hold its November Ace of the Month on Nov. 3 at the Marianas Country Club. Showtime for this tournament is 9am, while tee off is at 10am.

For more information about MGA or updates on upcoming tournaments, please contact J.J. Atalig at 285-4115, Greg Sablan Jr. at 483-8263, or email marianasgolf670@gmail.com. The public can also view the organization's Facebook page at http://www.facebook.com/MarianasGolfAssociation ***(PR)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Youngest tandem stands out

Ortega

Malasarte

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The youngest team in the Tan Holdings Open 2013 is also the first finalist in the mixed doubles C division.

Nine-year-old A.J. Ortega and 11-year-old Nicole Masalarte marched into the finals after booking three victories over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex. Malasarte and Ortega kicked off their bid in the seven-team field with a 21-16, 21-19 victory over Patrick Fernandez and Jhoanna Olivos last Saturday. Then after a few hours, the youthful pair got their second win, sweeping Ariel Jinang and Judy Mendieta, 21-17, 21-10, to advance to the win-

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NMASA bill gets nod from House

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One more approval and Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association can move forward.

NMASA will need only the Senate's nod after the House passed House Bill 18-111 last week. The measure which is known as the Northern Marianas Sports Act of 2013 and introduced by Rep. Tony Sablan (IR-Saipan), will allow the association to take over the management and maintenance of the Oleai Sports Complex and be recognized as a private nonprofit corporation.

The bill would also repeal Public Law 4-66 that created NMASA in 1984 and Executive Order 94-3, which placed NMASA under the wing of Department of Cultural and Community Affairs' Division of Sports and Recreation.

Staffs from DSR, which has been dissolved after it was not included on the budget for fiscal year 2014 passed by the lawmakers last month, have already moved out of the complex, while NMASA has designated acting executive director Tony Rogolifoi to manage

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Island Floral bags second victory

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Island Floral picked up its second win in as many games after beating Maplas, 67-60, in the curtain raiser in the 2nd DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Wednesday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

An even distribution of points helped Island Floral secure the 7-point win over Maplas. Jun Tabora led Maplas with his 14 points, while Alex Standish contributed 12. Four other Island Floral players combined for 33 points to offset Christian Devero's game-high 25 markers for Maplas. John Santos chipped in 9 for Island Floral, while Syl Teregeyo, Cesar Bisana, and Jerome Norita added 8 apiece.

With Devero anchoring Maplas' offense and drawing some help from Edmark Mendoza, the first game of the night was pretty even after the first half. Island Floral clung to a 29-28 lead at the break after falling behind in opening canto, also by a hair, 13-14.

Island Floral then managed to gain more distance in the third, 47-41, after Santos, Standish, and Tabora teamed up in balance offense, while it was still a Devero show for Maplas, as Mendoza was held to a field goal in that canto.

Mendoza tried to redeem himself in the fourth period, but only he and Devero made it to the board in the majority of that frame before Mico Usi converted worthless baskets, as Island Floral was still in control and continued to spread the wealth.

Fong's Bakery 66, Docomo 58

In the second game, Fong's Bakery won its debut after defeating Docomo Pacific (1-1).

Fong's recorded a 26-9 scoring in the second canto to turn a 10-11 deficit to a promising 37-19 advantage. Fong's never looked back from thereon, withstanding every Docomo rally.

Jason Bahillo led Fong's in the crucial second-quarter uprising, as he unloaded three triples, closing the period with back-to-back shots from beyond the arc to match the entire Docomo output. Only Erwin Gomez canned more than one field goal for Docomo in the second-quarter slowdown.

Bahillo hit two more treys in the third canto to preserve Fong's double-digit lead, while Badong Camacho took over in the fourth, drilling 9 points. Camacho top-scored for Fong's with his 16 points, while Bahillo nailed 15.

Kixx 74, Adobo 56

In the lone game completed last Monday, Kixx Engine Oil stunned defending champion Adobo.

Kixx gained its first win af-

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Island Floral's John Santos goes for a layup against two Island Manpower defenders during their game in the DL Corp. caging early this month at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.
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